

## Rate Your Charter School Governing Board

*[Instructions: Circle the number of the question if the answer is “yes.” At the end of the questionnaire there will be a section to calculate the score.]*

1. Our board’s monthly meeting agenda is focused on our school’s vision and mission.
2. Our board has a set of board-level policies that is updated regularly.
3. Our board’s finance subcommittee has sufficient expertise in charter school finance to develop an annual budget, project a five-year budget and make sound financial recommendations to the board.
4. We have a process to assist new board members with the board’s practices that includes assigning a board mentor and making available corporate documents such as the school’s charter school application, bylaws, articles of incorporation and other documents.
5. Our board uses a strategic plan to lead the school; the strategic plan is updated at least yearly, discussed at least quarterly at our board meetings, is communicated at least twice a year to parents and staff, and is the central document for the board’s work.
6. Our board models the value of professional development and continuous improvement by regular board training and a board self-evaluation at least once a year.
7. Our board has a conflict of interest policy that’s comprehensive and effective.
8. Our school’s accountability committee provides beneficial achievement data analysis to the board and administers and compiles data from the annual parent survey.
9. Each of our board members keeps apprised of charter school legislation through a variety of sources. When necessary, we contact our legislators to express our opinions on specific bills.
10. Every one of our board members fulfills his/her fiduciary responsibility to understand the school’s financial operations and make informed, wise financial decisions on behalf of the charter school. There is not an over-reliance on the board Treasurer or school business manager.
11. I know for certain that our school has sufficient finance-related checks and balances in place to safeguard against financial impropriety and to protect our employees.
12. Our board never goes into Executive Session without properly noticing the statutory reason in a timely manner and voting to enter Executive Session.
13. I know which waivers our charter school operates with and how the waivers impact our board policies and charter contract.
14. I know requirements of the Sunshine law and its implications for my actions, such as not discussing school business on email with my fellow board members (unless it is with only one individual).
15. I have read and understand our school’s charter contract.
16. I know the school’s vision and mission statement and have discussed its values collectively with my fellow board members.
17. Our board has a regular monthly board meeting that is efficiently led by our board chair; only under special circumstances does our meeting go longer than four or five hours.

18. I know to follow the school's grievance process if I have an issue of concern; I do not take other parent's issues to the board for them, but instead encourage them to also use the grievance process.
19. Our board uses a board member agreement that outlines behavioral norms and expectations.
20. I personally read and research information about charter schools, our school's educational program and other topics that would increase my personal capacity to serve our charter school on the governing board.
21. I have personally established networking relationships with people who are important to our school's success, but who are not members of our school community, such as legislators, authorizer school board members, and community leaders.
22. I get my board packet at least a week prior to our regular monthly board meeting and am adequately prepared when I attend the meeting.
23. Our board has a standard board agenda calendar so I know when items such as budget approval, school calendar approval, fee schedule, and principal evaluation will be considered by the board.
24. I make it a practice to distance myself from the day-to-day operation of our charter school because the administrator's role is to manage daily operations, while mine is to make decisions, along with my fellow board members at regularly scheduled meetings, on behalf of the school.
25. I know that if someone were to join our board with a personal agenda, we would be quick to efficiently manage the situation and resolve it satisfactorily.

Number of responses circled: \_\_\_\_\_ times 4= \_\_\_\_\_%