Board Not Bored:
Creating Engaged Boards

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WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE A BOARD MEMBER?

KEY ASPECTS OF BEING A BOARD MEMBER

- Governance and Oversight
  - Strategic Direction
  - Policy Setting
  - Monitoring Performance
- Fiduciary Responsibilities
  - Financial Oversight
  - Legal Compliance
  - Risk Management
- Support and Advocacy
  - Fundraising
  - Public Relations
  - Resource Provision
- Leadership and Development
  - Executive Director Support and Evaluation
  - Board Development and Evaluation
- Commitment
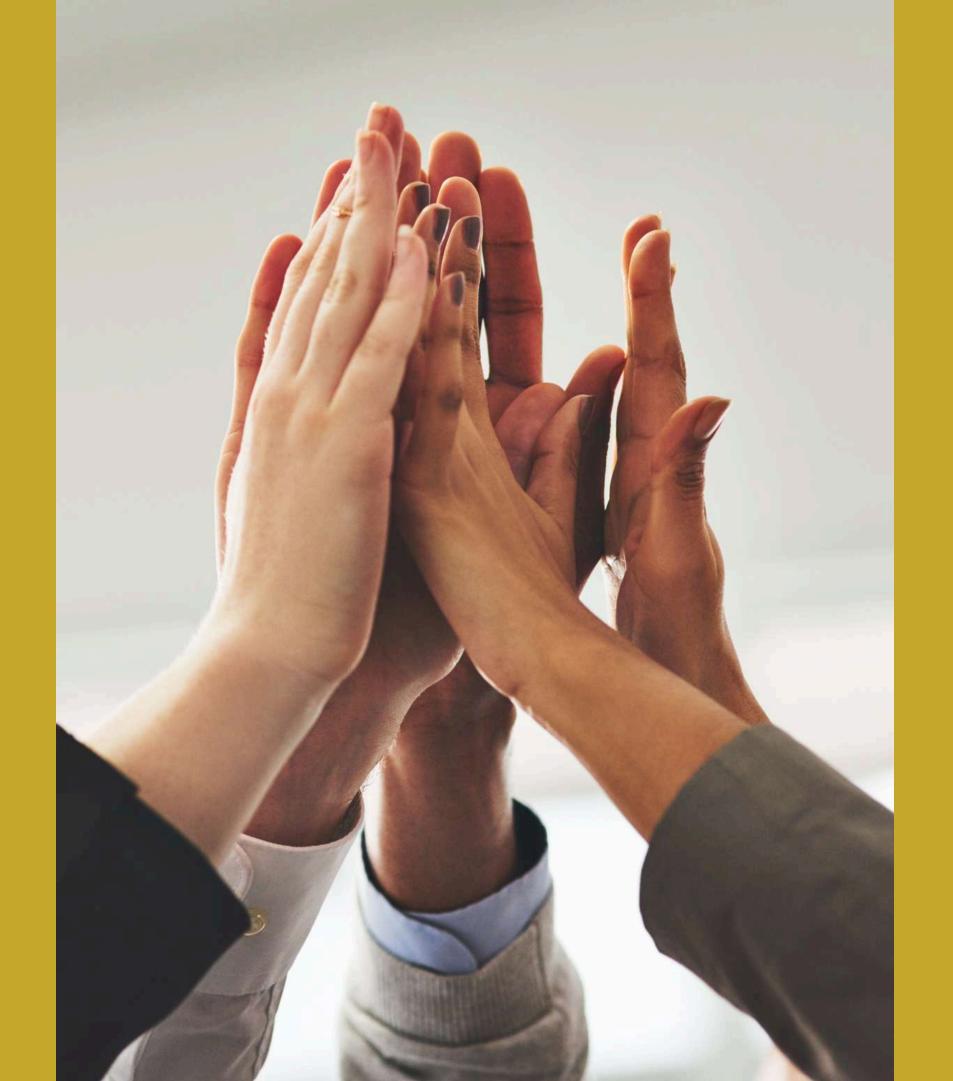 - Meeting Participation
  - Time and Energy

BEFORE THE MEETING

- Send the agenda and board packet at least one week in advance.
  - Provide clear updates - preferably using a dashboard - of progress on the strategic plan.
  - Ensure committees have met between board meetings and have included their project updates to be included in the board packet.
  - Set time parameters for discussions - to ensure you get to all of the critical conversations.
  - Include clear high-level summaries of the financials so everyone is on the same page.

- Determine who will be responsible for taking the minutes.

- Determine what key items need to be discussed for strategic support in advancing the organization's mission.

DURING THE MEETING

- Use a consent agenda. Save time and energy.

- Don't read committee reports at the meeting. Only tease out important discussions/decisions if they're really needed.

- Create clear follow-ups/tasks for things that emerge. Ensures that work doesn't fall through the cracks.
    - Who will be accountable?
    - Is there a timeline?

- Build in time for people to engage with one another in dialogue. Cultivates a teamwork culture.

- Solicit feedback and brainstorm together to solve organizational challenges. Provides the organization's staff leadership with critical input.

CELEBRATE WINS

- Client success stories
- Program impact metrics/data
- Organization-wide success (team growth, new funding, etc.)
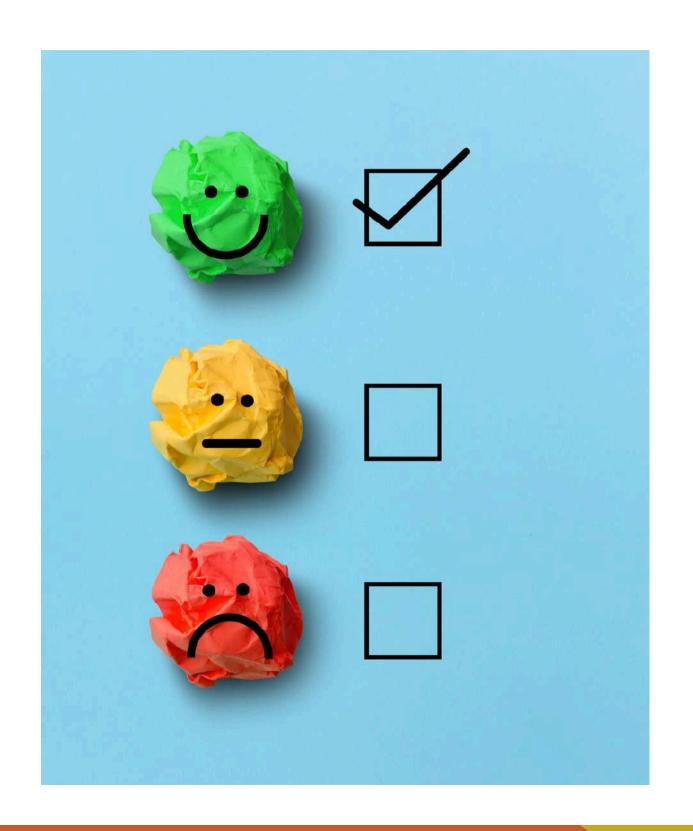
THINGS TO CONSIDER

- Icebreakers and Team Building

- Facilitation Tools (1:2:4 and Collective Brainstorming)

- Music

- Co-Develop Community Norms

- Governance Platform (Boardable, BoardEffect, etc.)
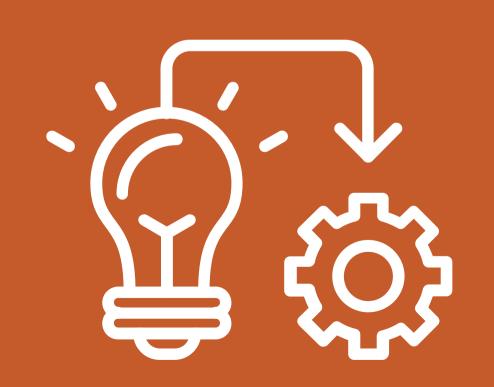
TRY
NEW
THINGS

BOARD SELF-EVALUATION

- Improves Governance Effectiveness

- Enhances Strategic Focus

- Identifies Skill Gaps

- Strengthens Accountability

- Builds Team Cohesion

- Supports Succession Planning

- Addresses Challenges Proactively

- Boosts Stakeholder Confidence

THERE NEEDS TO BE A ROBUST AND ENGAGED BOARD TO SUPPORT THE MISSION.

HOW WILL YOU IMPLEMENT THIS WITH YOUR BOARD(S)?

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND ENERGY

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