



HOW TO ... BECOME AN EFFECTIVE BOARD PRESIDENT

LIVE WEBINAR – 2023/2024: 9/20/23

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Step 1.
Develop your “job
description”

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Step 2.
Assess leadership
skills

3

Step 3.
Put in the time

4

Step 4.
Encourage
Process/Systems
Development

5

Step 5.
“Be the Guide on
the Side”



FIVE STEPS TO BECOMING AN EFFECTIVE BOARD PRESIDENT

STEP I: DEVELOP YOUR JOB DESCRIPTION

- [Identify both practical skills and leadership skills necessary for job/role](#)
- Include any unique and specific board/academy nuances
- [Sample job description](#)



STEP 2: ASSESS LEADERSHIP SKILLS

- Be thoughtful about your “board chair” skills
- Differentiate “CEO” skills from board leadership skills
- What kind of leader do I want to be for my board (and work toward becoming that leader)? *Hint: Good board leaders are facilitators NOT commanders.*



STEP 3: PUT IN TIME

- Spend appropriate time with school leadership/management
- Take leadership role in preparing for meetings
- Be knowledgeable about agenda topics and contribute to its development



STEP 4: ENCOURAGE PROCESS/SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT

*“Board chair interventions are focused on process and people rather than on content.”**

- Utilize processes/systems to guide board discussion
- Processes predict results
- Ensure processes/systems create conditions for board engagement

*Source: How to be a Good Board Chair
Harvard Business Review 2018
By: Stanislav Shekshnia



STEP 5: BE THE “GUIDE ON THE SIDE”

- Be restrained
- Be patient
- Be available



EVALUATING BOARD
CHAIR? SHOULD YOU?
DO YOU?

*As your leadership goes, so
goes your board ...*



*“Great board chairs create conditions
that allow other people to shine.”*

How to be a Good Chair
Harvard Business Review 2018
By: Stanislav Shekshnia





THANK YOU!

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