



January 9, 2013

TO: County Board of Education

FROM: Xavier De La Torre, Ed.D.
County Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: Board Self-Evaluation

Associated Goal

Goal 1: Advocacy and Leadership: SCCOE will be the central, active leader and voice on critical education issues.

Background

In Accordance with Board Bylaw 9400 (*attached*), the Santa Clara County Board of Education shall, as directed by the County Board President, annually conduct a self-evaluation in order to demonstrate accountability to the community and ensure that its governance of the Santa Clara County Office of Education effectively supports student achievement and the attainment of the County Office's vision and goals.

The evaluation may address any areas of County Board responsibility, including but not limited to County Board performance in relation to vision setting, curriculum, finance, policy, and community relations. The evaluation also may address objectives related to County Board meeting operations, relationships among County Board members, the County Board's relationship with the Santa Clara County Superintendent of Schools, understanding of County Board and County Board and County Superintendent roles and responsibilities, communication skills, or other boardsmanship skills.

XDLT: ca

BOARD SELF-EVALUATION

The Santa Clara County Board of Education (“County Board”) shall, as directed by the County Board President, annually conduct a self-evaluation in order to demonstrate accountability to the community and ensure that its governance of the Santa Clara County Office of Education (“County Office”) effectively supports student achievement and the attainment of the County Office's vision and goals.

(cf. 0000 - Vision)

(cf. 2123 - Evaluation of the Superintendent)

(cf. 9121 – Board President)

The evaluation may address any areas of County Board responsibility, including but not limited to County Board performance in relation to vision setting, curriculum, finance, policy, and community relations. The evaluation also may address objectives related to County Board meeting operations, relationships among County Board members, the County Board’s relationship with the Santa Clara County Superintendent of Schools (“County Superintendent”), understanding of County Board and County Superintendent roles and responsibilities, communication skills, or other boardmanship skills.

(cf. 9000 - Role of the Board)

(cf. 9005 - Governance Standards)

By January of each year, the County Board President shall establish a timeline and create a committee composed of no more than three County Board members, including the County Board President, to determine an evaluation method or instrument that measures a reasonable number of identified performance objectives. The County Superintendent or designee shall provide assistance and support, if requested. The criteria, process, and schedule for the County Board’s self-evaluation shall be approved annually by the County Board in open session.

The evaluation instrument should measure how County Board interactions, operations and performance contribute to the mission, vision and goals of the County Office. Outcomes of the process may include the development of strategies for strengthening County Board interactions, operations and performance; the assurance that ethical standards and legal regulations are being followed; the establishment of priorities and objectives for the following year’s evaluation; and the identification of opportunities for County Board member development.

The County Board shall be evaluated as a whole and not as individual members. However, individual County Board members are also encouraged to use the evaluation process as an opportunity to privately assess their personal performance as a County Board member. Although the County Board President may direct County Board members to complete an evaluation instrument individually, any discussion of the County Board's self-evaluation shall be conducted in open session. At the request of the County Board, a facilitator may be used to assist with the evaluation process. The County Board may invite the County Superintendent or others to provide input into the evaluation process.

Legal Reference: (see next page)

BOARD SELF-EVALUATION (continued)

Legal Reference:

GOVERNMENT CODE

54950-54963 *Brown Act; board self-evaluations not covered*

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

Professional Governance Standards, 2000

Maximizing School Board Leadership, 1996

WEB SITES

CSBA: <http://www.csba.org>