



THE BOARD PRESIDENCY



Board Presidency: The Job





Great leaders don't set out to be a leader...they set out to make a difference. It's never about the role-always about the goal.

Lisa Haisha



BDB© Board Officer Duties



Policy

1

Do I want to
be board
president?

If not, no big deal! It's
not for everyone.

2

How much time
will be required?

Do I have the time
required?

3

What are the
board and
district's goal for
the coming year?

Am I the best fit for that?

4

Do I have good
relationships?

Have I built solid,
professional
relationships with board
members and the
superintendent?

5

Can I run a meeting?

It's harder than it looks!
The meeting is the board's opportunity to do its work.

6

Am I collaborative?

Do you want to build a culture of collaboration?
Is the team one I can work with to develop good board culture?

7

How do I deal with conflict?

Does conflict make you uncomfortable? Are you confident in your ability to address conflict?

8

Do I know what the role is...and what it is not?

The board president is not the gatekeeper of the agenda nor do you have any special power.

Soft Skills Required



The Organizational Meeting



BDA © BOARD ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

The bottom half of the image features a teal background with a torn paper effect. A white, irregularly shaped area in the center contains the word "Policy" in a black, handwritten-style font.

Policy

What is an organizational meeting?

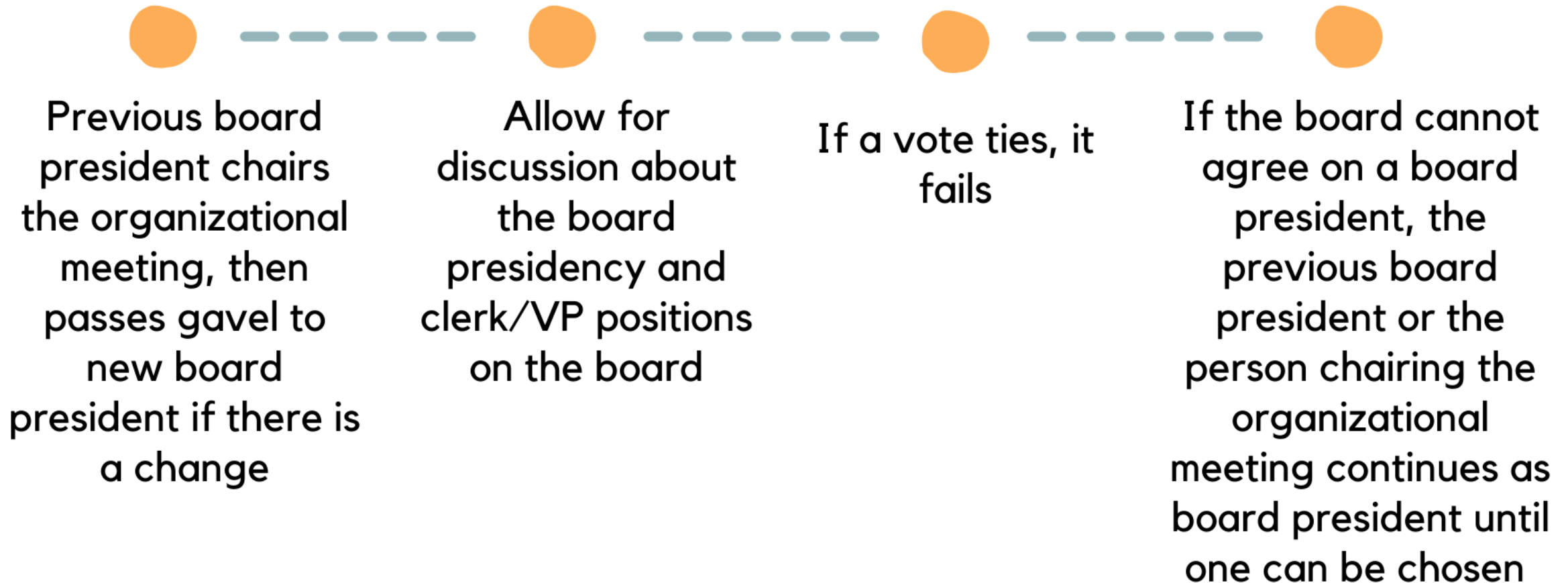
Required by Arizona Revised Statutes §15-321, an organizational meeting is a meeting of the school district governing board in which the board chooses its board president and, should they have one, either a board vice-president or board clerk.

It often is also the meeting at which basic board meeting procedures are reviewed – when the board will meet for the coming year, basic board meeting policies, the board's code of ethics, mission, vision and strategic goals, among other topics.

----- Legal Requirements -----

- MUST occur between January 1 and January 15 following a general election
- CAN occur more frequently than that if allowed by board policy and the matter is on the agenda
- Board president is the only board officer position mandated by statute
- President MUST be elected by public vote on motion

Organizational Meeting Procedures



Pick Your Poison

4 Types of Organizational Meetings

1

Quick Draw

First name out
wins!

Not ideal. It can cause
feelings of mistrust.

2

Round Robin

Everyone gets a
turn!

Works when everyone or
no one wants the job.

3

Strategic

Plan for the year
ahead!

What's coming up and who
has the skill/time to do it?

4

Democratic

Anyone can throw
their hat in!

Anyone who is interested
is able to state their
intention before a motion is
made.



"Win or lose, do it fairly."

Coach Knute Rockne



Being Board President
is more than a
title...

Here's what your,
superintendent, board
secretary & fellow board
members need from you.



Board Secretary

Let's face it, you need them...so be respectful, professional & kind

- 1 Follow the chain of command and established protocols. Don't bypass them or ask us to.
- 2 Keep agenda setting appointments. Plan ahead.
- 3 Avoid changes to the agenda once it is set. Such changes look bad and make the job harder.
- 4 Don't make it weird. Avoid venting about other members/staff or putting us in awkward positions.
- 5 Be specific about what it is you need/want.

Superintendent

It's a partnership...be prepared to work.

1

Have time to do the job well. There is a lot of planning & preparation needed to do it well.

2

Come prepared, to the agenda setting meeting, to discuss the needs of the entire board.

3

Smile, you're on camera! Come prepared to run an efficient meeting.

4

Set the tone for board professional learning through conferences, work study sessions, evaluation, etc.

5

Be willing and able to work with all members during the meeting and in-between meetings.

Board Members

Be a facilitator, not a gatekeeper.

- 1 Ensure everyone is able to get their voice heard.
- 2 Bring forward our requests during agenda setting.
- 3 Don't be a hoarder. Share information with us.
- 4 Focus the board on moving district and board goals forward.
- 5 Organize and support team learning and development opportunities.



A board president said, "I never have trouble running a meeting. People know and respect the rules. Sometimes we have a good battle, but if a situation gets to be tense, I know it needs either to be studied further or voted upon and gotten out of the way."





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Questions?

