

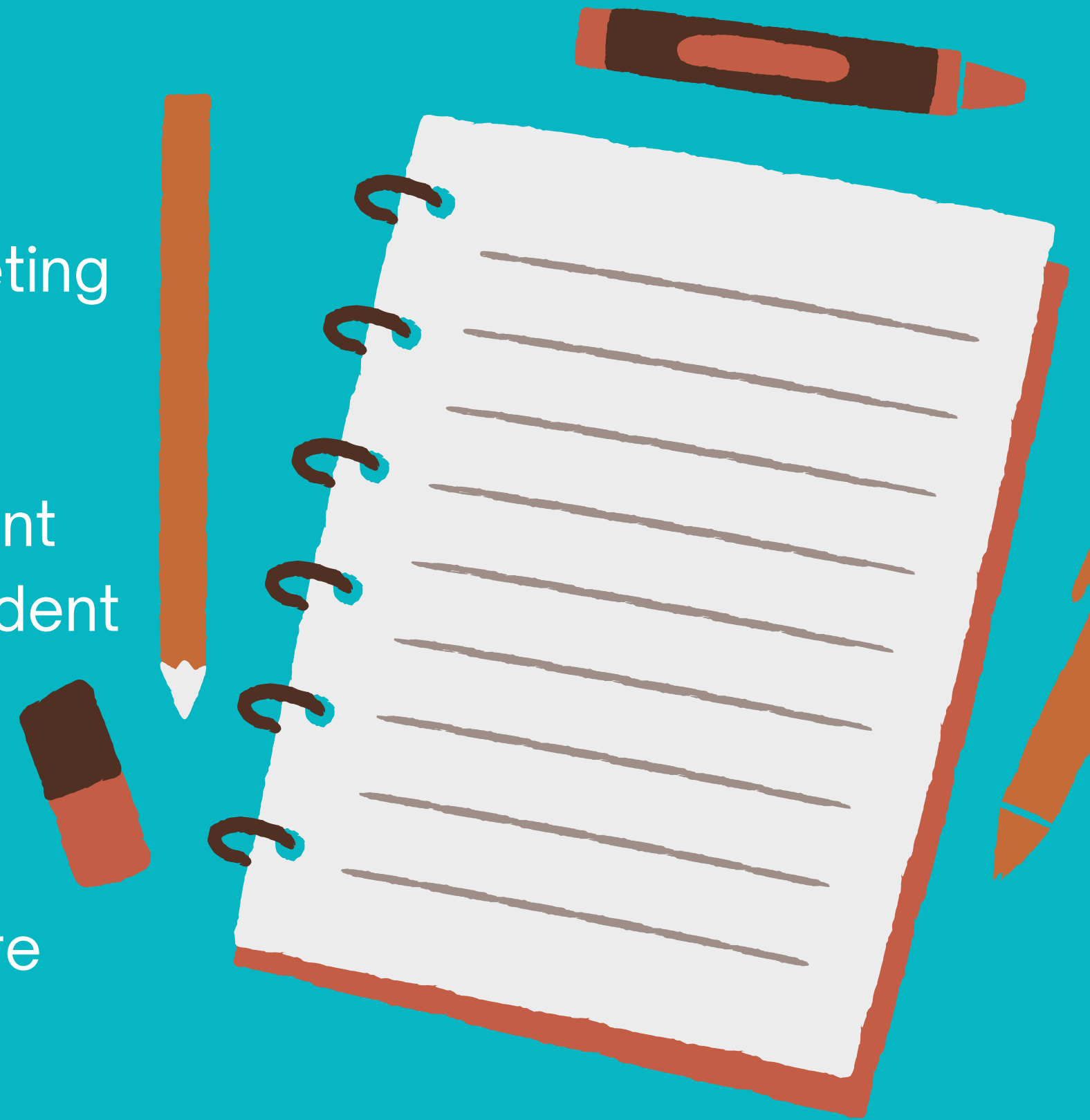
The Time is Now

**Your 2025 Organizational Meeting
and Board President Election**



Today, we will...

- Provide information about the organizational meeting
- Understand the significance of electing a board president
- Discuss the process for electing a board president
- Review the roles that go into being a board president
- Identify skills needed in the role
- Examine the needs of your board secretary, superintendent and other board members
- Cover the hotspots of board meetings that require firm leadership for meeting success





Good leaders don't set out to
be a leader...they set out to
make a difference.

Lisa Haisha

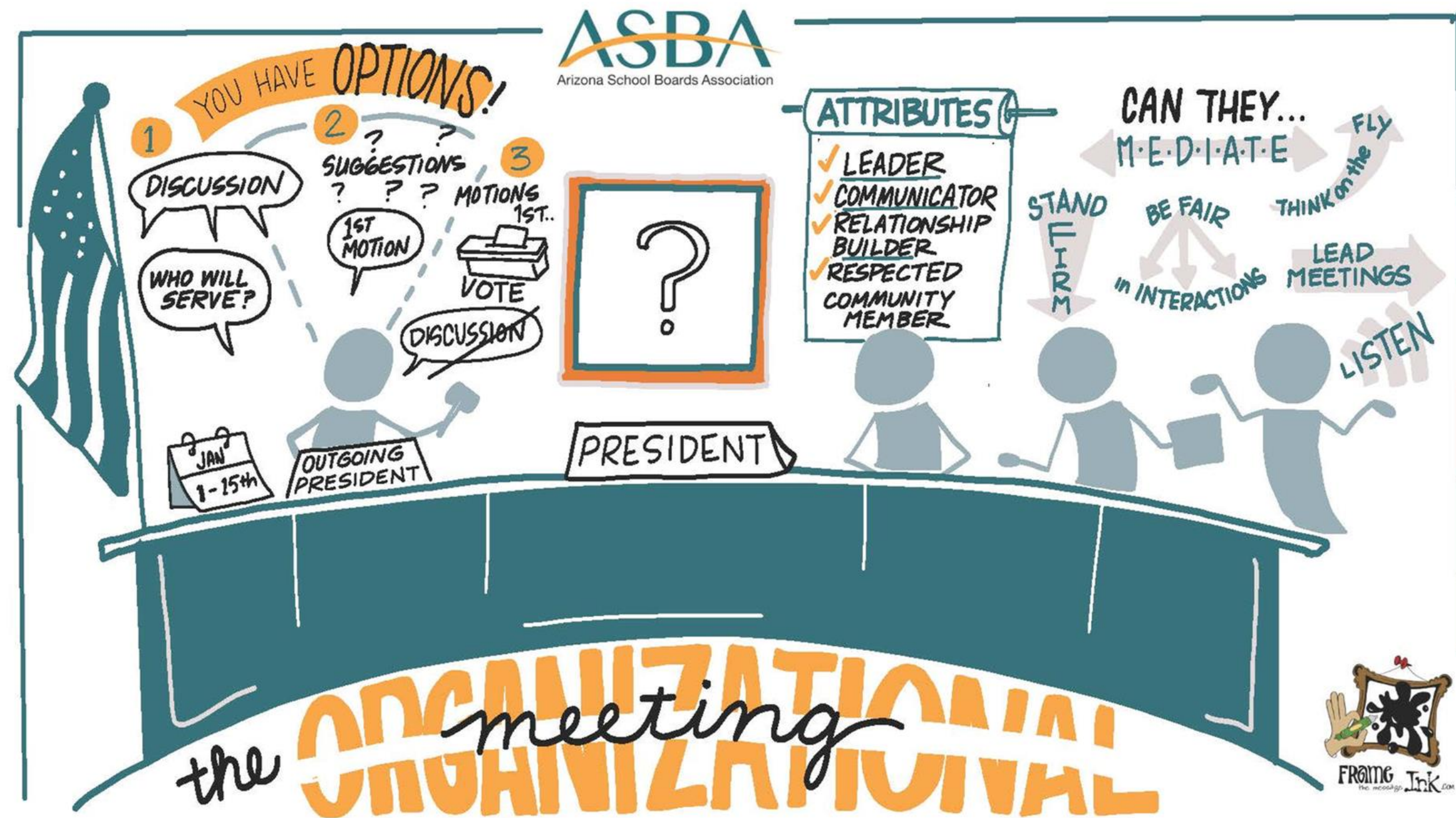


How do you feel about your board's organizational meeting?

Do you feel uncertain about how the process for board president election will go?

What discussions do you wish your board would have before electing a president?





BDA ©

BOARD ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

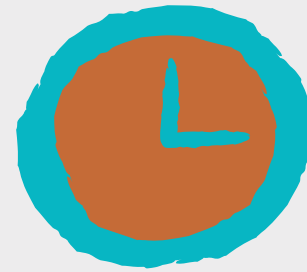
- For the purpose of organizing the Governing Board, the Board must meet in January following the election at the most convenient public facility in the District. If a public facility is not available within the District, the Board may meet at any available public facility convenient to all Board members, regardless of the county or school district in which the facility is located.
- The meeting must be called to order by the President of the Board from the prior year. If that person is no longer a member of the Board, a temporary president must be elected to call the meeting to order and preside until a successor is chosen.
- The new President of the Board shall take office upon election.
- If there is a vacancy in the office of President, the Board shall elect a new officer to fill the vacancy. However, the Board may elect a Board President at any time, for any reason, providing that the matter is handled in a way that is consistent with the open meeting law and adopted by the Board.

LEGAL REF.:

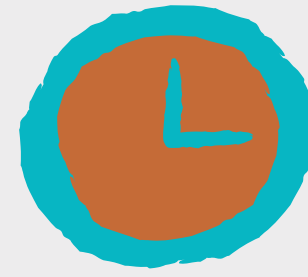
- A.R.S. 15-321 - 38-431 et seq.
- CROSS REF.:
- BDB - Board Officers
- BE - School Board Meetings
- BEC - Executive Sessions/Open Meetings
- BEDA - Notification of Board Meetings



**“Remember on your first day
when I said you need to jump right in?”**



- The board president is the only officer required by law to be elected by the board
- The previous year's president chairs the meeting
- If the previous board president is no longer on the board, the next officer (clerk, vice-president) can run it OR the board must vote on a temporary president to run the organizational meeting
- The vote must be public (voice vote, no paper ballots)



- If the vote ties, the motion fails
- If the board cannot agree on a board president, the previous board president or the person chairing the organizational meeting continues as board president until one can be chosen
- An organizational meeting must be held in January of odd-numbered years but:
 - Can be done yearly
 - Can be done anytime if the board chooses to do so

What About Board President?

Questions to Ask Yourself...

1. Do I want to be board president?
2. How much time will be required?
3. What are your board and district goals for the coming year?
4. Do I have good relationships?



What About Board President?

Questions to Ask Yourself...

5. Do I know how to run a meeting?
6. Do I know what the role is...and what it isn't?
7. How comfortable am I dealing with conflict?
8. Can I be collaborative even when I don't agree with someone?



Compare and Contrast

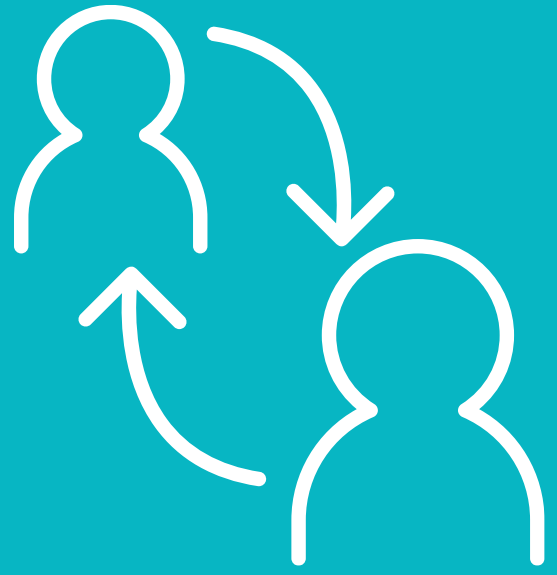
Board President Elections



Quick Draw



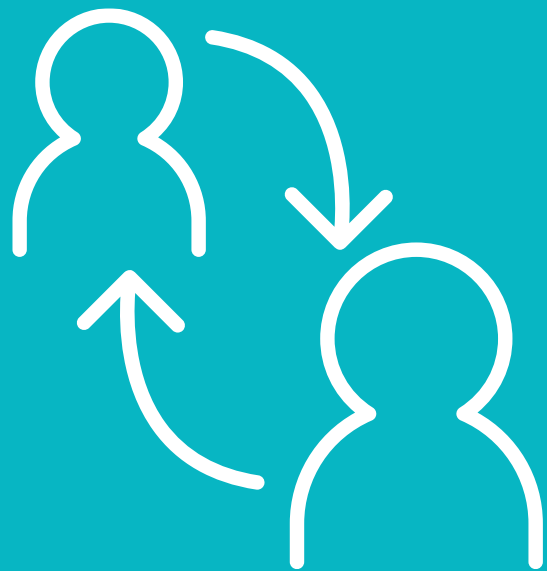
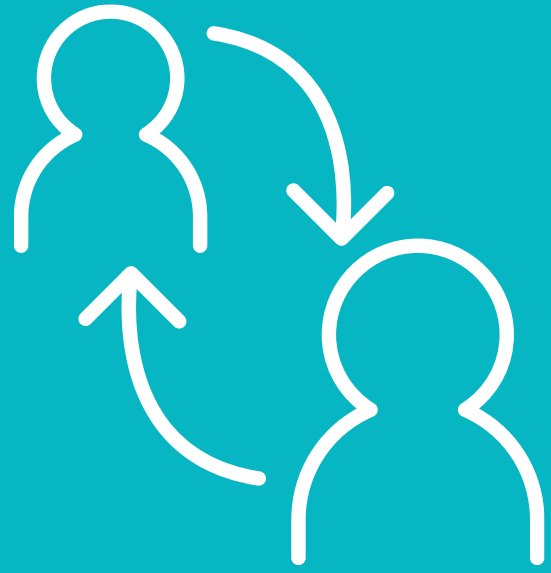
First name out wins.
No discussion.
No questions.
Motion, vote, done.



Round Robin

Everybody does it at
some point.

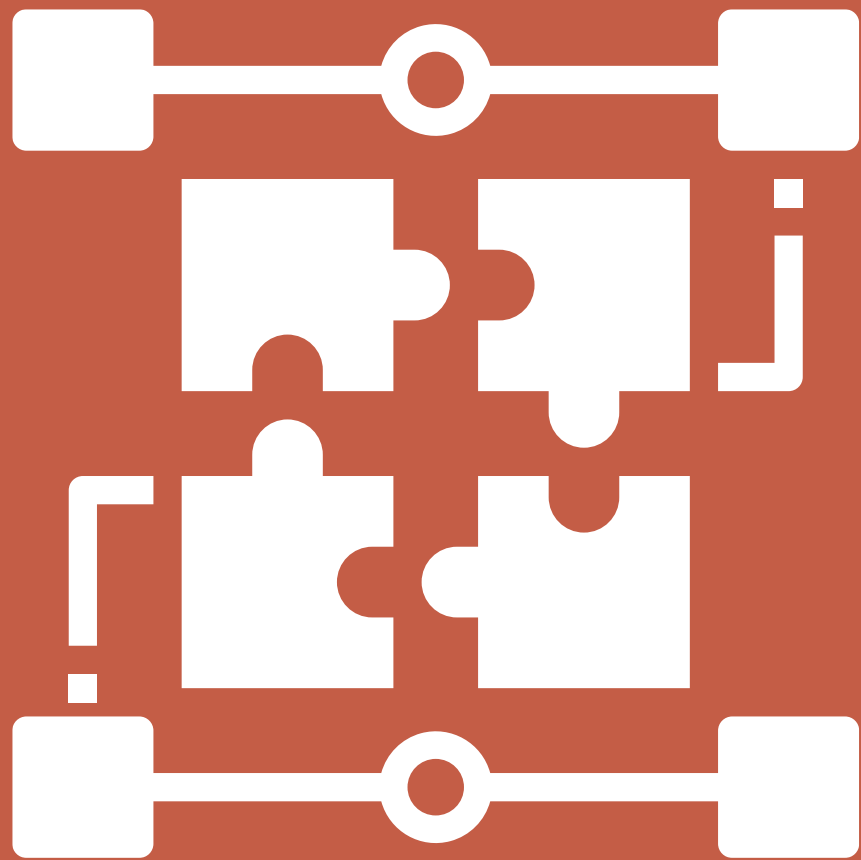
Good when everyone, or
no one, wants the job!

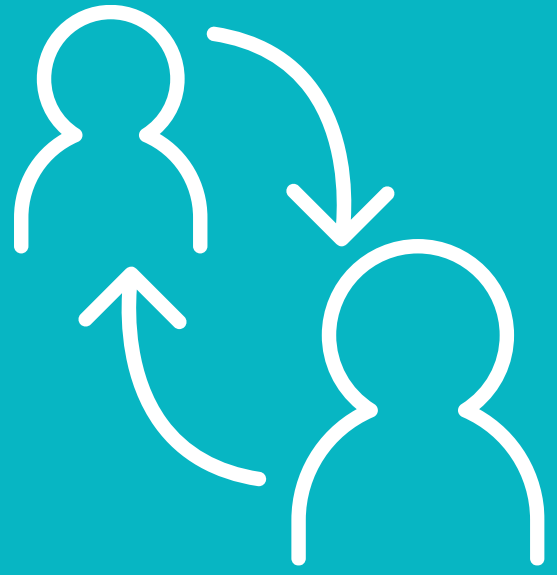


Strategic

Discuss next calendar
year presidency
before January.

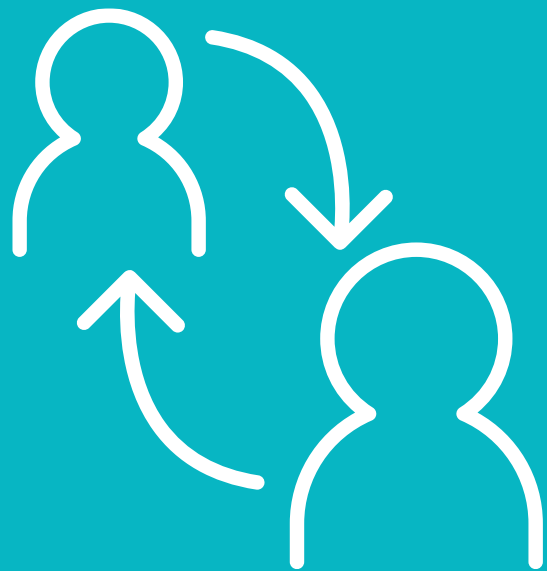
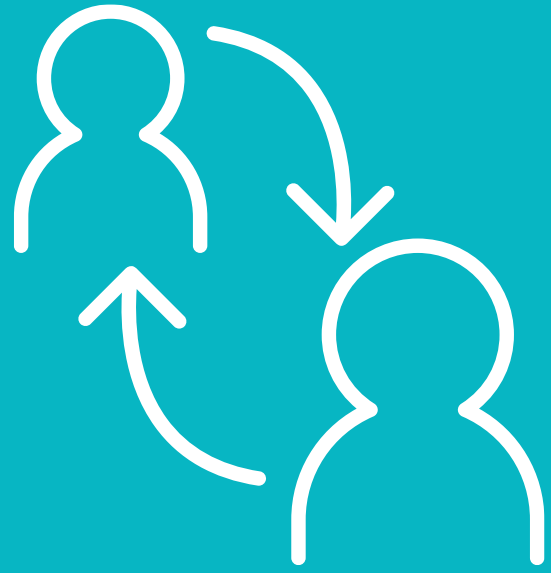
What's coming up
and who wants to do
it?





Democratic

At organizational meeting, discussion takes place ***before*** a motion and vote.





Legal and Policy Expert

Arguably, the most important role. Board meetings can be well-run or chaotic. The board president has an important role in determining the outcome.



Meeting Pacesetter

There is a skill in knowing when it's time to move on during a meeting--vote or refer for future consideration.



Mediator

Managing angry or stubborn adults is difficult. Having the ability to make people feel their voice is heard is important.



Exemplar

The board president can set the tone for the whole board. They are a role model for the rest of the board and the community.

Consensus Builder

Ceremonial

Relationship Builder

Skills Needed

The ability to:

Problem Solve

Communicate

Listen

Be flexible

A

B

L

C

D

**Being
Board
President**

BOARD SECRETARY

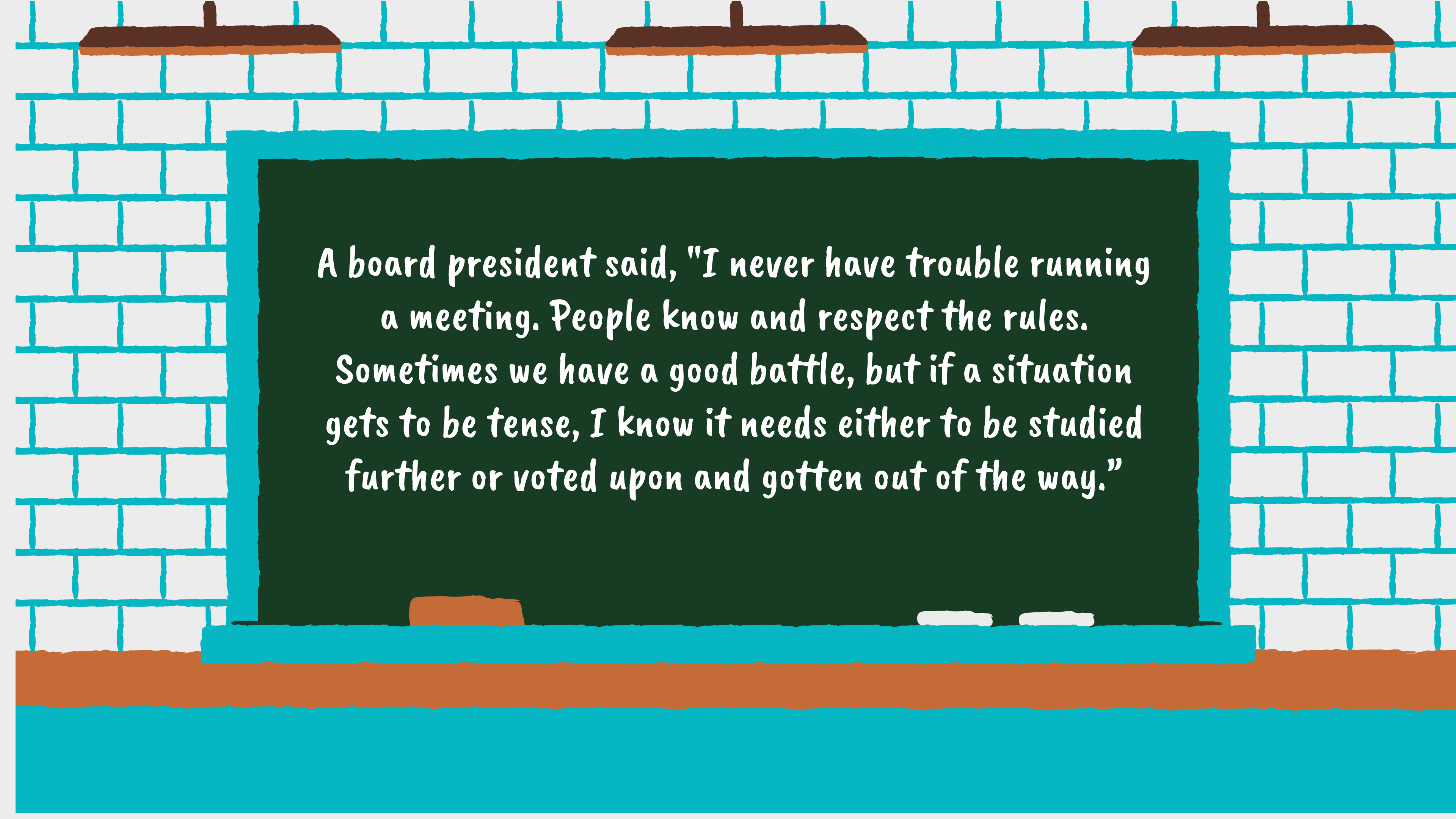
- Follow chain of command and adhere to policy
- Keep agenda setting appointments
- Avoid changes to the agenda once it has been set
- Don't vent about other board members--it puts them in an awkward position
- Be specific about what you need/want

SUPERINTENDENT

- Have the time required to do the job well
- Come to agenda setting meetings prepared to discuss the needs of the entire board
- Prepare for meetings so they are efficient
- Set the tone for board members by participating in professional development
- Be willing and able to work with all board members during and in-between meetings

FELLOW BOARD MEMBERS

- Ensure everyone's voice is heard
- Bring forth our requests
- Don't hoard information
- Focus on moving board and district goals forward
- Organize and support team learning and development opportunities

A cartoon illustration of a classroom. The background is a light blue brick wall. At the top, there are three brown rectangular objects hanging from the wall. In the center, there is a large black chalkboard with a thick black border. On the chalkboard, there is white text. Below the chalkboard, there is a brown desk. The floor is a solid light blue color.

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."



Meeting Hotspots



Meeting Agenda

Supt. and Board Reports

Call to the Public

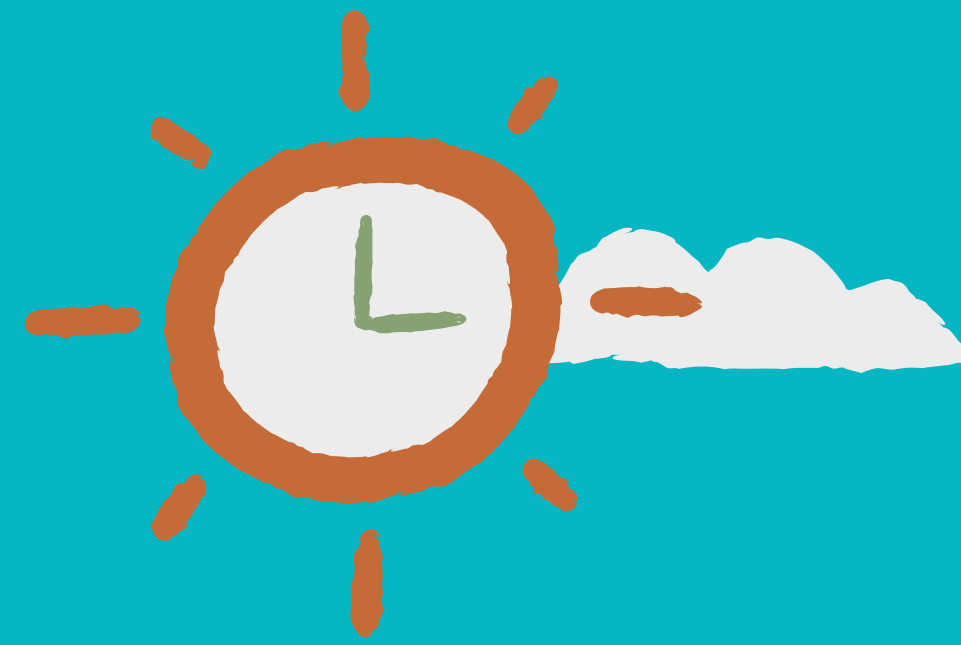
Rules of Order

Motions and Amendments

Discussion and Debate

Voting

Board presidents need to know how to handle these areas of potential conflict!



Thank You!

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