



Taking Board Meetings From Good to **GREAT!!!**

Really?

Well....Nobody said it's easy

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You Might be a bad Board Member

If you think studying the teachers' syllabi for proper inclusion of the course curriculum is something a board member should do in their spare time?

...you might be a bad board member...

If you think throwing your shoe at another board member is making your point?

...you might be a bad board member...



If you go to the cheerleading advisor to assure that *your* daughter is named the captain of the cheerleading squad?

...you might be a bad board member...

If you assure your neighbor that the board will never let that SOB high school counselor be named high school principal?

...you might be a bad board member...



If you think telling the local reporter that the gym teacher never had sex with that girl is “getting in front of the situation”?

...you might be a bad board member...

If you give the gym teacher a “heads up” by telling him that there is a pending investigation into allegations of sexual relations with a student?

...you might be a bad board member...



If you are proud of your letter to the editor explaining that the board decision for a new levy was “idiotic”?

...you might be a bad board member...

Don't be a bad board member!



Rule #1: For a Great Meeting Be a great board member!

...That means all the members



Rule #2: For a Great Meeting Not too Short and Not too Long

- Extremely short meetings are only good for the board members
- Remember public meetings need to be a communication and education meeting for the public
- Long meetings are not good for anyone
- Shoot for 1 ½ to 2 hours



Rule #3: For a Great Meeting Love Your Fellow Board Members

Do you love your fellow board members?

No?.....

Too Bad!



Rule #3: For a Great Meeting Love Your Fellow Board Members

- Be aware of the fine line between debate and arguing or fighting
- Seek middle ground
- Be willing to actually listen
- Interruption, eye rolling, negative body language, side conversations and note passing are all disrespect



Rule #4: For a Great Meeting Respect the Community

- Invite the public
- Remember the #1 fear for adults
- Let everyone have their say
- Avoid actively engaging the public in debate (leave that for the agenda items)
- Interruption, eye rolling, negative body language, side conversations and note passing are all disrespect



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Rule #5: For a Great Meeting “No Man is an Island”

*...Entire of itself; every man is a piece of
the continent. — John Donne*

Consensus is the Board's job



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Rule #5: For a Great Meeting “No Man is an Island”

- Individual tantrums and outbursts **ALWAYS** harm public perception
- It is **NEVER** good to drop unexpected bombs during meetings
- Never publically undermine the Superintendent or Treasurer





Rule #5: For a Great Meeting “No Man is an Island”

Effective Groups - For a group to be of maximum effectiveness it must have complete leadership and also a high degree of competence among its members. Among other things this implies that the members know how to deliberate and to crystallize these deliberations into group action.

Parliamentary Procedure at a Glance - O. Garfield Jones



Rule #5: For a Great Meeting

“No Man is an Island”

Consider NPR’s story from August 20, 2013 – *What’s Behind the Turnaround at Miami Public Schools?* - Claudio Sanchez

- The story clearly points out that it is the work of Superintendent, Alberto Carvalho
- Carvalho started with the board, “*He quickly made peace with the school board, which was seen as inept, disreputable and hopelessly divided*”.

Current board member Raquel Regalado says, “*Carvalho has helped change that image*”.



Thank you!

Time to share and learn....