

VISION

The California School Boards Association envisions a state where the public schools are widely recognized as the foundation of a free and democratic society, where local citizen governing boards are fully vested with the means to advance the best interests of students and the public and where the futures of all children are driven by their aspirations, not bounded by their circumstances.

MISSION

Boards of education are entrusted by their diverse communities to ensure that a high quality education is provided to each student. CSBA promotes success for all students by defining and driving the public education agenda and strengthening school board governance at the district and county levels. To achieve this mission, CSBA will be the leader in providing:

POLICY AND POLITICAL LEADERSHIP ON BEHALF OF CHILDREN AND STUDENTS

CSBA conducts non-partisan research and policy analysis and advocates aggressively for state and federal policies that are coherent and focused on providing educational opportunities for all students.

COMPREHENSIVE SUPPORT FOR GOVERNANCE TEAMS

CSBA provides training, support, resources and inspiration to governing boards and superintendents to maximize their effectiveness in carrying out their critical leadership functions.

DIRECT SERVICES TO DISTRICTS AND COUNTY OFFICES OF EDUCATION

CSBA provides high quality fiscal, policy, executive search and other services to school districts and county offices of education to assist them in meeting the needs of their students.

EDUCATION TO OUR COMMUNITIES ABOUT PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND SCHOOL BOARD LEADERSHIP

CSBA develops and implements communications strategies that increase the public's understanding about the value of public education and the importance of local school governance.

Adopted as modified June 29, 2008



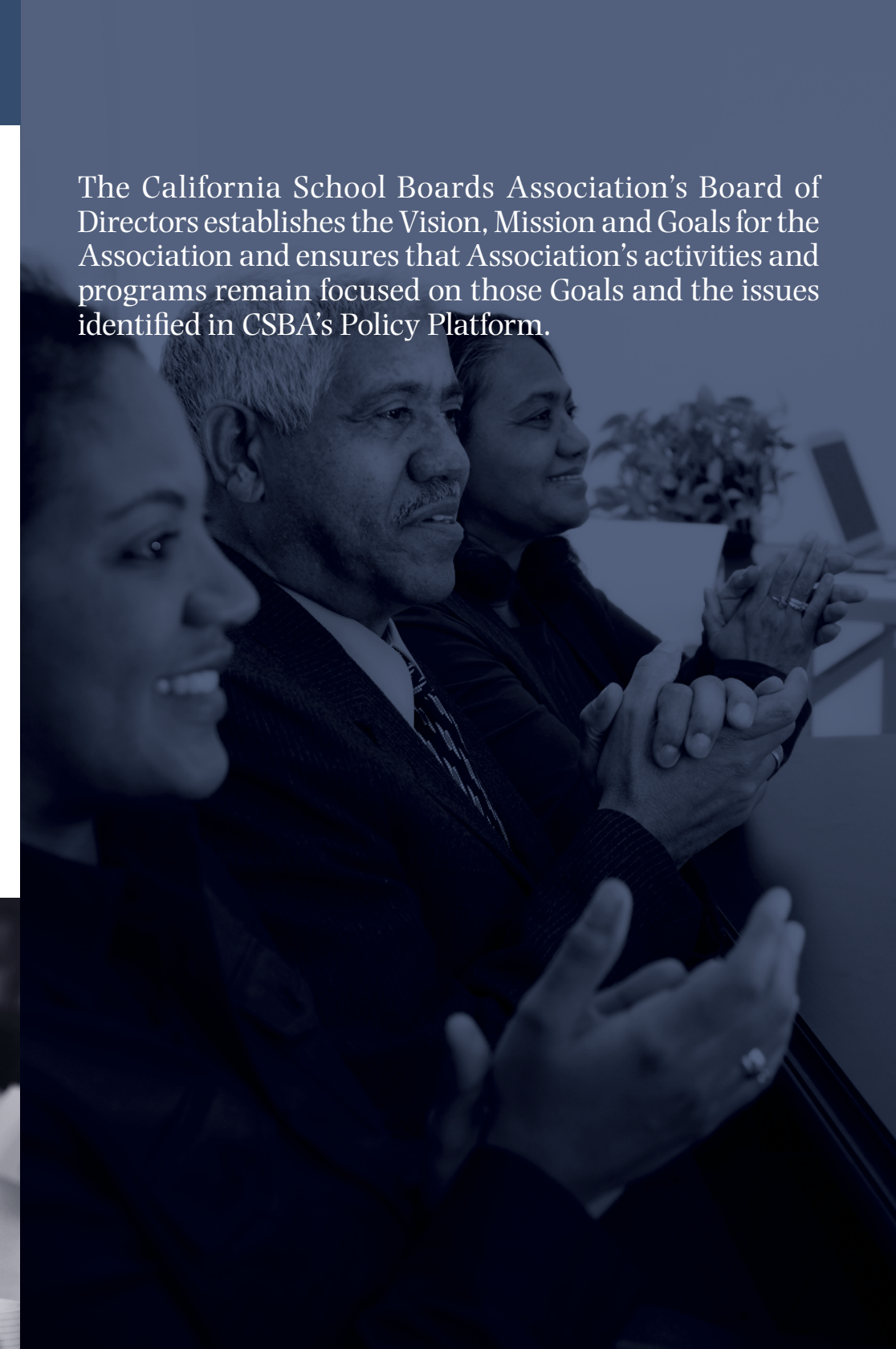
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

SETTING DIRECTION, PROVIDING LEADERSHIP
AND ENSURING ACCOUNTABILITY

The California School Boards Association's Board of Directors establishes the Vision, Mission and Goals for the Association and ensures that Association's activities and programs remain focused on those Goals and the issues identified in CSBA's Policy Platform.



California School Boards Association
3100 Beacon Blvd., West Sacramento, CA 95691
800.266.3382 | www.csba.org



BOARD OF DIRECTORS CORE VALUES

FOCUS

We will concentrate our efforts on CSBA's Vision, Mission and Goals.

COMMITMENT TO PUBLIC EDUCATION

We will be a visionary Board in driving the public education agenda. Our proactive and innovative actions will foster and advance the educational experiences of all students by supporting the governing boards of member districts and county offices that serve them.

INTEGRITY AND TRUSTWORTHINESS

We will act with integrity and trustworthiness in our decisions, actions and interactions with others. We will conscientiously endeavor to maintain a non-judgmental and open-minded environment where individuals are respected for their diverse contributions.

LEADERSHIP

We will demonstrate commitment, passion and leadership to our members. We will provide the resources needed to empower them to action. We will model leadership by participating in CSBA activities, advocacy, and collaboration with and outreach to other organizations.

ACTION, RESULTS AND ACCOUNTABILITY

We will concentrate our individual and collective efforts on results by ensuring our actions are focused and coordinated toward defined and measurable outcomes. We are accountable to the Delegate Assembly, and by extension, to the member districts and county offices we serve.

Adopted June 29, 2008

BOARD OF DIRECTORS GUIDING PRINCIPLES OF GOVERNANCE

Exceptional boards add significant value to their organizations, making a discernible difference in the fulfillment of their mission. Good governance requires the board to balance its role as an oversight body with its role as a force supporting the organization. The difference between *responsible* and *exceptional* boards lies in thoughtfulness and intentionality, action and engagement, knowledge and communication. The following 12 principles, as prioritized by the CSBA Board of Directors, provide a vision of what is possible and a way to add lasting value to the Association.

STRATEGIC THINKING

We allocate time to what matters most and continuously engage in strategic thinking to set CSBA's direction. We use our Vision, Mission, Goals, Core Values and strategic priorities to drive meeting agendas, work with Delegates and constituent groups, improve Board leadership and evaluate the Executive Director.

RESULTS ORIENTED

We are results oriented. We measure the progress toward CSBA's Vision, Mission and Goals and evaluate the performance of major programs, products and services.

INTENTIONAL BOARD PRACTICES

We purposefully organize our Board structure to fulfill essential corporate and leadership duties and activities and to support and adopt CSBA's priorities. Making governance intentional, not incidental, we invest in structures and practices that can be thoughtfully adapted to changing circumstances.

MISSION DRIVEN

We shape and uphold the Mission, articulate a compelling Vision and ensure the congruence between decisions and Core Values. We treat questions of Vision, Mission and Core Values as statements of crucial importance to be explored and incorporated into deliberations.

CULTURE OF INQUIRY

We establish a culture of inquiry, mutual respect and constructive debate that leads to sound decision making. We seek information, question assumptions and challenge conclusions so that we may advocate for solutions based on analysis.

TRANSPARENCY

We promote transparency by ensuring that members of the Board have equal access to relevant information including finances, operations and results.

CONTINUOUS LEARNING

We embrace the qualities of a continuous learning organization, evaluating our own performance and assessing the value we add to CSBA. We embed learning opportunities into routine governance work and activities outside of Board meetings.

BOARD DEVELOPMENT AND RENEWAL

We improve the performance of the Board by mentoring and training Directors and by encouraging diverse membership and perspectives. We thoughtfully consider how turnover impacts the Board and foster discussion about succession planning that strengthens the leadership of CSBA.

INDEPENDENT MINDEDNESS

We value independent thinking. We base our votes on personal examination of the facts, full and rich discussion at the board table, in consultation with other Delegates, board members and stakeholders. We are non-partisan. We operate using democratic principles and consensus.

STANDARDS OF INTEGRITY

We promote strong ethical values by establishing appropriate mechanisms for active oversight. We put statewide interests above local or personal benefit when making decisions.

SUSTAINING RESOURCES

We link our visions and plans to financial support, expertise and networks of influence. Linking budgeting to strategic planning, we approve activities that can be realistically financed with existing or attainable resources, while ensuring that CSBA has the infrastructure and internal capacity it needs.

CONSTRUCTIVE PARTNERSHIP WITH THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

We govern in a constructive partnership that is built on trust, candor, respect and honest communication. The effectiveness of the Board and Executive Director are interdependent.

Adapted and modified from The Source (2005). *Twelve Principles of Governance That Power Exceptional Boards*. Washington, D.C.: Board Source.

Adopted June 29, 2008

BOARD OF DIRECTORS ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

STATEWIDE LEADERSHIP

- Adopts the Vision, Mission and Goals of the Association, and annually reviews progress toward achieving them.
- Adopts positions and policies which are consistent with CSBA's Policy Platform or which serve as interim positions and policies between Delegate Assembly meetings.
- Provides advocacy on behalf of children, public education, local boards and the Association.
- Serves on Board of Directors and other standing committees, councils, task forces and focus groups.
- Receives reports and updates on major programs, consistent with the Vision, Mission and Goals of the Association.

REGIONAL AND CONSTITUENCY LEADERSHIP

- Provides two-way communication with Delegate Assembly members and local board members.
- Supports and participates in the Association's activities and events.

CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITIES

- Adopts the Association's budget.
- Adopts the Association's Standing Rules.
- Receives reports on corporate operations.
- Approves the hiring and terms of employment of the Executive Director, upon recommendation of the Executive Committee.
- Comments annually on the performance, and acts on the contract of the Executive Director, upon recommendation of the Executive Committee.

Source: CSBA Bylaws, Article IV, Section 1.