

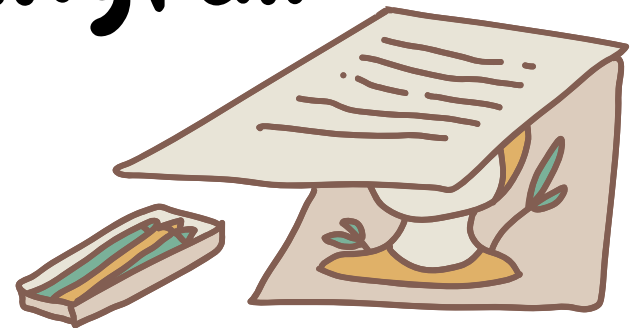


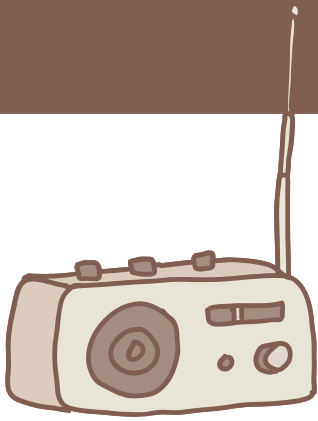
SCHOOL DISTRICT OF WEST SALEM

Board Interest
Presentation

**So...You're Thinking About
Becoming a School Board
Member in the School District
of West Salem?**

A friendly guide to what the role is really about in the West Salem School District and what makes it meaningful.





Why People Run



Advocate for kids and public education

- **Support strong schools**
- **Serve the community**

**Guiding Question:
What inspired YOU to consider
this role?**

Governance Drivers: Two Mindsets

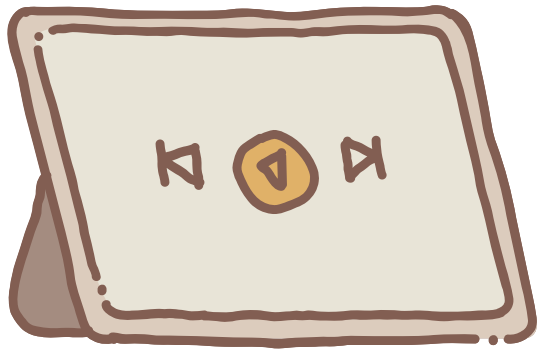
- **Negative Drivers → Reactive, tactical, operational**
- **Positive Drivers → Strategic, forward-thinking, governance-focused**



Guiding Question:

- **How do you naturally approach problem-solving —operations or strategy?**

Moving Toward Positive Drivers

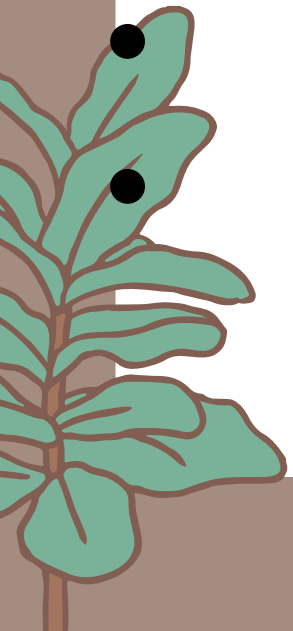


Focus on governance

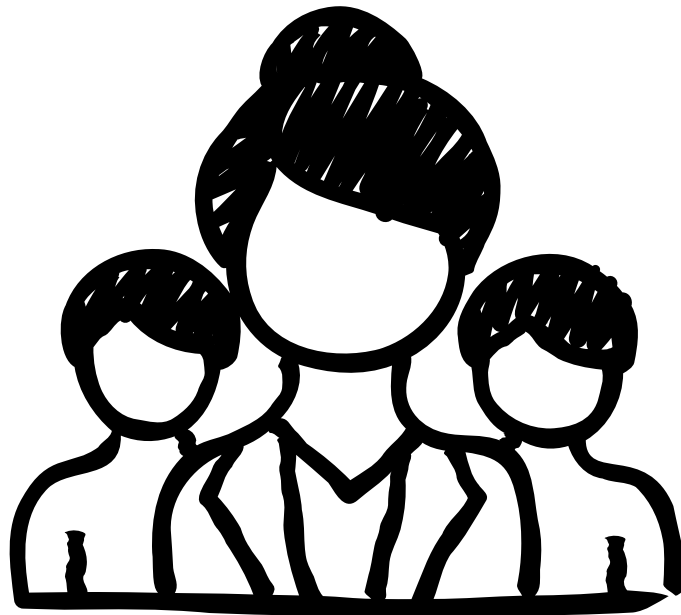
- **Strategic, goals-driven agendas**
 - **Proactive culture**
- **Board–superintendent cohesion**

Guiding Question:

What would a healthy board culture feel like to you?

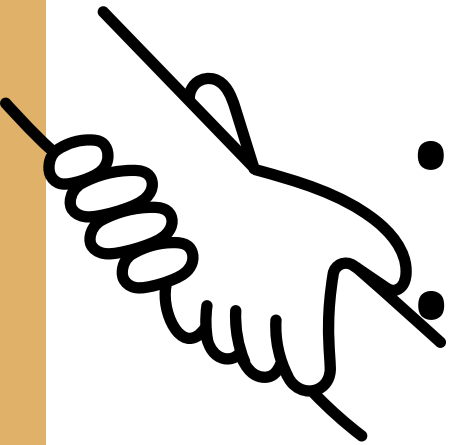


What is a Governance Mindset?



Shared understanding of the work

- **30,000-foot vision, not fire-hose reactions**



- **Trust + communication**
- **Give and take of ideas**

Guiding Question:

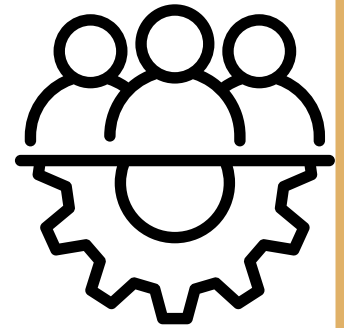
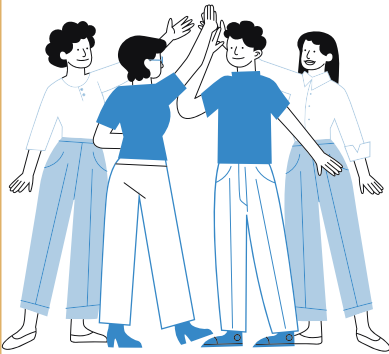
**How comfortable are you with
long-term thinking?**

Becoming a Unified Governance Team



Raising the bar and closing gaps requires:

- **Curiosity**
- **Collaboration**
- **Shared responsibility**



Guiding Question:

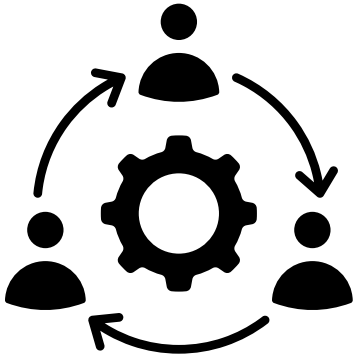
- **What strengths would you bring to a team environment?**



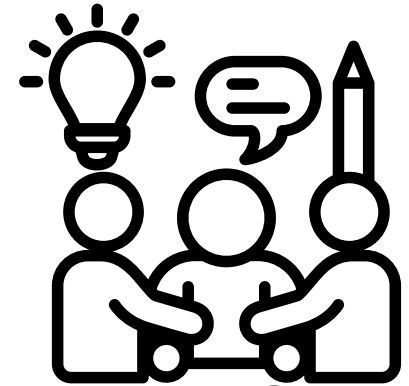
Important Realities of Board Service

Elected as an individual, govern as a TEAM

- **One vote out of seven**
- **Success is collective, not individual**

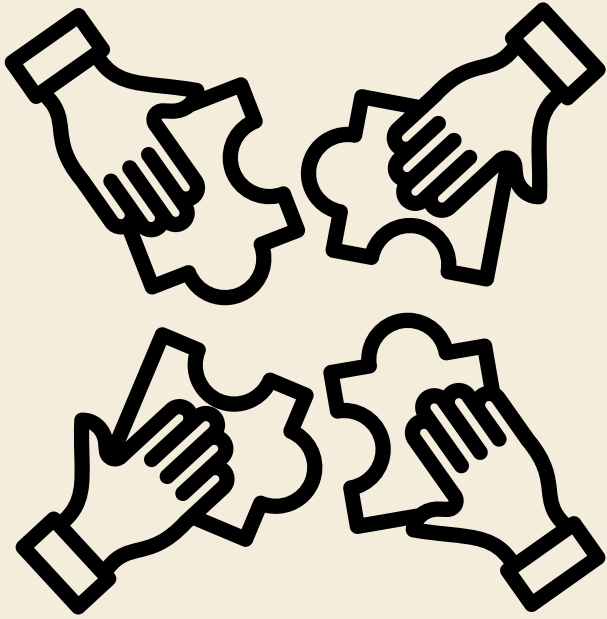


Guiding Question:



- **How do you handle being part of
group decision-making?**

Top 10 Things for New Trustees



- Be patient
- Govern professionally
- Be a systems thinker
 - Strategic focus
- Commit to learning
 - Build trust
- Model positive culture
- Represent the district well
 - Be a leader
- Uphold ethics and integrity



Asking Questions = Strong Leadership



- Ask early, ask often
- Seek clarity before meetings
- Build understanding proactively

Guiding Question:

- What kinds of questions help you feel prepared?

Final Thoughts

- Board service is meaningful, challenging, and impactful.
- You don't need to know everything—just curiosity, humility, and a heart for kids.

Guiding Question:

- If you decide to run, what support would you hope to receive?





Thank You!

Do you have any question?

