

BOARD EFFECTIVENESS DIAGNOSTIC OVERVIEW

Since launching Education Board Partners, board after board has asked “What do highly effective charter school boards DO?” We did a lot of research on boards and charter schools across the country and developed the *Standards for Effective Charter School Board Governance* from our findings and experience. The **Board Effectiveness Diagnostic** (BED) helps charter, autonomous school, and education nonprofit boards diagnose their practices in relation to these standards.



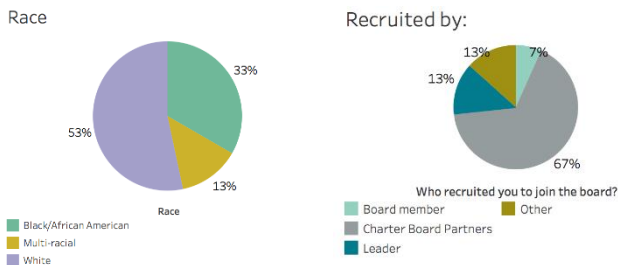
The BED process includes:

- **Self-assessment survey** of all board members and the organization’s leader (e.g., CEO, Head of School)
- **Interviews** of a subset of board members, including the board chair, and the organization’s leader
- **Analysis** of relevant board documents, as needed

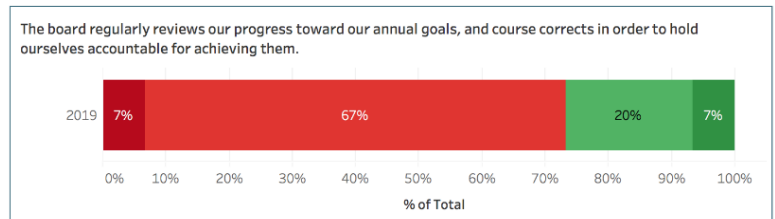
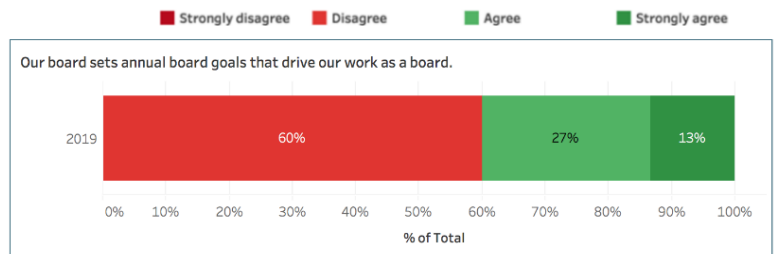
Upon completion of the BED, Education Board Partners will provide an **aggregate report** of survey results, a list of the board’s **strengths** and **ways the board can improve**, and **recommendations** for ongoing support.

AGGREGATE REPORT

The aggregate report shows board demographics and a summary of responses to questions about the board’s current state, strengths, and challenges.



Do you have more than five years of experience in the following areas?



SAMPLE SURVEY QUESTIONS

Board members anonymously respond to survey questions in which they indicate the extent to which they agree with a statement about the board on a four-point scale. Each statement is a best practice aligned with one of the *Standards for Effective Charter School Board Governance*.

Focus Relentlessly on Student Achievement

- I know how our school defines and measures academic outcomes for students.
- I understand how our school's performance compares to that of other public schools in our city/state.

Ensure Exceptional Leadership

- The board monitors the CEO/ED's progress towards her goals at least quarterly.
- Our CEO evaluation process is comprehensive, professional, and useful to both the board and the CEO.

Commit to Exemplary Governance

- This board prioritizes diversity, equity, and inclusiveness in our work.
- I have a clear understanding of my responsibilities and what is expected of me as a board member.
- Our board meetings are well-run and focused on strategic issues.

Act Strategically

- The board has approved a multi-year strategic plan that defines the long-term vision for the school and the strategy for achieving it.
- The board spends its time and energy on governance and oversight, not involving itself in the management of the organization.

Raise and Use Resources Wisely

- I review a dashboard at least quarterly that shows actuals vs budget for expenses and revenues.
- Our board has a full set of financial policies and procedures that protect the organization's long-term sustainability.

Maintain Legal and Regulatory Compliance

- Our board proactively addresses compliance issues.
- The board reviews all school policies annually (e.g. policies governing safety, discipline, student and personnel conduct, finances, ethics, board and school operations).