**Board Member Agreement**

**Strong Start Academy Elementary School (SSAES) Board of Directors**

 I,                                                         understand that as a member of the SSAES Board of Directors I have a legal and moral responsibility to ensure that the organization does the best work possible in pursuit of its goals. I believe in the purpose and the mission of the organization, and I will act responsibly and prudently as its steward and agree to support and uphold the following:

**General Responsibilities:**

Each director is responsible for actively participating in the work of the SSAES Board of Directors and the life of the organization. Each director is expected to affirm and strive to fulfill the performance expectations and responsibilities outlined below. The SSAES Board will nominate the candidate only after they have agreed to fulfill these expectations.

**Board Member Onboarding Expectations:**

1. Complete background check
2. Complete trainings
	* Open meeting law
	* Governance Standards
	* etc.
3. Complete BoardOnTrack tasks
	* Assessment
	* Survey

**Board Member Responsibilities:**

1. Believe in and be an active advocate and ambassador for the values, mission, and vision of SSAES.
2. Provide my personal and professional resources to help SSAES realize its mission.
3. Work with fellow board members to fulfill the obligations of board members.
4. Behave in ways that clearly contribute to the effective operations of the Board of Directors:
* Focus on the good of the organization and group, not on a personal agenda;
* Support board decisions once they are made;
* Participate in an honest appraisal of one’s own performance and that of the board;
* Build awareness of vigilance towards governance matters rather than management.
1. Regularly attend board and committee meetings in accordance with the absenteeism policy. Prepare for these meetings by reviewing materials and bringing the materials to meetings. If unable to attend, notify the board or committee chair.
2. Be prepared to contribute approximately 6-8 hours per month toward board service which includes:
	* Attending a month board meeting (2 hours)
	* Participating on a board committee (2 hours)
	* Reading materials, preparing for meetings (1 hour)
	* Attending events at the school, assisting with fundraising and other ambassador tasks as needed (1-2 hours)
3. Keep informed about the organization and its challenges by reviewing materials, participating in discussion, and asking strategic questions.
4. Actively participate in one or more fundraising event(s) annually.
5. Use of personal and professional contacts and expertise for the benefit of SSAES.
6. Serve as a committee or task force chair or member.
7. Give an annual financial contribution and support capital campaigns at a level that is personally meaningful.
8. Inform the Board of Directors of SSAES of any potential conflicts of interest, whether real or perceived, and abide by the decision of the board related to the situation.

**Organization Responsibilities ~~to me~~:**

1. I will receive, without request, monthly financial statements and regular updates of organizational activities that allow me to meet the "prudent person" section of the law.
2. The organization will help me perform my duties by keeping me informed about issues in the industry and field in which we are working, and by offering me opportunities for professional development as a board member.
3. Board members and the Executive Director will respond in a straightforward fashion to questions I have that are necessary to carry out my board and committee-related responsibilities to this organization.
4. Board members and the Executive Director will work in good faith with me towards the achievement of our goals.
5. If the organization does not fulfill its commitments to me, I can call on the Board Chair, Board Counsel, and/or Executive Director to discuss these responsibilities.

I have read, understand and am willing to comply with this Board Member Agreement. I understand that if I ever find myself in a situation where I am unable to fulfill the above expectations and responsibilities, I will resign from the Board.

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Candidate, Board of Directors Date

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Chair, Board of Directors Date

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TBD Date