IMAGINE SCHOOLS GOVERNING BOARDS

inform and advise stakeholders to ensure a culture of positive character development and academic growth is evident.

Governing board members understand and support Imagine's Shared Values and are knowledgeable about the school's work to improve student achievement. They evaluate school data, programs, and services to ensure that annual progress is being made, achievement gaps are closing, and the community and authorizer are kept informed about the school's accomplishments.

INFORM

ESTABLISH

Develop, in concert with school leadership, a clear vision of student achievement as the highest priority.

EQUIP

Use school reports to monitor progress and allocate resources.

ENGAGE

Communicate using common language, common processes, and common outcomes.

EVALUATE

Focus on results, analysis, continuous improvement, and creating value.

ADVISE

ESTABLISH

Maintain a welcoming, transparent culture that invites stakeholders to become authentic partners.

EQUIP

Collaborate with school leadership to develop and monitor goals and priorities known by all stakeholders.

ENGAGE

Work in partnership with school leadership to monitor the school improvement process.

EVALUATE

Assess performance and pose relevant questions to ensure that appropriate annual progress is being made.

IMAGINE SCHOOLS GOVERNING BOARDS INFORM OTHERS ABOUT IMAGINE SCHOOLS

ESTABLISH

Develop, in concert with school leadership, a clear vision of student achievement as the highest priority.

Imagine board members understand and validate the importance of Imagine's Shared Values by supporting a strong, positive culture of character and achievement. In doing so, board members support goals and policies, allocate resources, and ensure accountability for all aspects of student achievement.

Outcomes

The board is a key part of the culture of student academic growth through understanding policies and allocating resources that align to the school's educational program.

Required Tools to Establish High Expectations

Academic Excellence Framework, charter application, School Excellence Plan, board policy binders, annual budget, board meeting agenda and minutes

EQUIP

Use school reports to monitor progress and allocate resources.

Imagine board members use reports to monitor academic achievement and ensure fidelity to the mission of the school. Recognizing that not all benefits from learning can be measured by standardized testing, the board confirms that the school establishes and evaluates specific goals and outcomes aligned directly with the school mission.

Outcomes

The board requests appropriate reports and documentation from the school to track progress in achieving school goals.

Required Tools to Equip with Progress Monitoring

School Excellence Plan, charter application, standardized test reports, state assessment reports, progress monitoring reports, Imagine Survey results

ENGAGE

Communicate using common language, common processes, and common outcomes.

Imagine board members communicate effectively and knowledgeably with stakeholders. The board shares the vision for student learning and articulates the beliefs about students and their education that serve as the foundation for the goals of the school and the direction for school improvement.

Outcomes

The board learns the common language of academic achievement and is able to effectively communicate with parents, authorizers, and the community about student progress, issues, and activities.

Required Tools to Engage in Effective Communication

Vision and mission statement, School Excellence Plan

EVALUATE

Focus on results, analysis, continuous improvement, and creating value.

Imagine Board members focus on results. Through visible evidence of monitoring and support, the board demonstrates its critical role in supporting student achievement. Board members are able to provide advice to school leaders for effective implementation of the school's mission and strategic plan.

Outcomes

The school's vision and goals are clearly articulated on board agendas and in board minutes. The school reports academic and character outcomes to the board on a regular basis. Data and analysis are openly discussed during board meetings.

Required Tools to Evaluate Continuous Improvement

Board agenda template, monthly principal report, data reports, School Excellence Program Review, School Excellence Plan, Imagine Survey results

IMAGINE SCHOOLS GOVERNING BOARDS ADVISE STAKEHOLDERS TO ENSURE ACADEMIC PROGRESS

ESTABLISH

Maintain a welcoming, transparent culture that invites stakeholders to become authentic partners.

Imagine Board members are entrusted by the public to develop policies, plans, and goals that are supported by the families of the school, the community, and the authorizer. In this capacity, all stakeholders feel welcomed and recognized as valued members of the learning community. Board members work in collaboration with school leadership, including Imagine leadership, resulting in strong, successful partnerships to serve the school and the students.

Outcomes

Students, parents, and community members regularly report that they are considered vital members of the learning community and of the Imagine family. They are personally acknowledged with greetings and conversations that exceed their expectations. They understand and demonstrate the Imagine Shared Values, including integrity. They are knowledgeable about the school's work to improve student achievement.

Required Tools to Establish a Welcoming Culture

Board meeting attendance reports and announcements, Imagine and school publications

EQUIP

Collaborate with school leadership to develop and monitor goals and priorities known by all stakeholders.

Imagine board members develop and monitor goals and priorities in collaboration with school leadership and other stakeholders based upon academic, character, and behavior data. Three elements constitute the foundation for academic improvement: clear measurable goals, intensive teamwork, and regular collection and analysis of performance data. These elements are addressed and monitored during all board meetings.

Outcomes

Goals are developed and known by all stakeholders. Data is visible throughout the school and is consistently shared during board meetings.

Required Tools to Equip for Developing Goals

School Excellence Plan goals, Character Development goals, classroom/schoolwide behavior management plans

ENGAGE

Work in partnership with school leadership to monitor the school improvement process.

Imagine Board members are active participants in the school improvement process. In collaboration with school leadership, the board oversees a strategic planning process to include teachers, parents, and students. This process ensures that all students are achieving at high levels and supports the school's mission, goals, and priorities with a measurable action plan and within the parameters of economic sustainability.

Outcomes

Board members participate in the school's strategic planning process. They work with school leadership to create conditions and direct resources for accelerating improvement, strive for high expectations for all students, communicate needs and progress of the student body to the community and authorizer, and build the community's understanding that all students will succeed with no exceptions.

Required Tools to Engage in the Improvement Process

School Excellence Plan, strategic planning templates, assessment calendars, focus calendars

EVALUATE

Assess performance and pose relevant questions to ensure that appropriate annual progress is being made.

Imagine board members monitor school data, services, and programs to ensure that annual progress is being made, achievement gaps are closing, and the community and authorizer are kept informed about student progress.

Outcomes

Board members articulate the performance of student subgroups and describe overall strategies to improve academic progress. Board members take their academic support role seriously, requiring regular reports relating to academic progress, attendance, positive character development, behavioral issues, and other evidence to ensure that annual student progress is being made.

Required Tools to Evaluate Progress

School Excellence Plan, School Excellence Program Review, progress monitoring data, trend reports