

Lighting The Way To Excellence In School Governance

December 16, 2014

Board of Education c/o Mr. Robert Spatz, Board of Education President Dr. Albert Roberts, Superintendent Oak Park ESD 97 970 Madison St. Oak Park, IL 60302-4430

Dear Members of the Board of Education and Dr. Roberts:

Thank you for your participation in a Board Governance Review board self-evaluation on December 15, 2014. I appreciated you taking the time to fill out the survey ahead of time, attending the meeting on a night other than your board meeting, and your honesty in sharing your thoughts and perspectives.

The following are the "Next Steps" that you identified:

- Keep the Mission "alive" in your conversations at board meetings. (Foundational Principle #1)
- Update the Superintendent Job Description. (FP #3)
- Policy committee will identify months in which to monitor the different sections of the policy manual and identify specific policies to monitor. (FP #5)
- Review/develop the expectations for the board president. (FP #6)
- Have a continued awareness of board/superintendent roles and responsibilities as illustrated in the "Trust and Communication" graphic. (FP #3)
- Focus board discussions on community engagement efforts. (FP #2)
- Refer to the appropriate policies when making decisions. (FP #4)

I recommend the board review the Next Steps, approve them at a regularly-scheduled board meeting, and codify them in your policy manual if appropriate.

I have also enclosed a tally of the Board Governance Review topics that the board wished to discuss.

You will receive an invoice for \$400 for the cost of a board self-evaluation.

I enjoyed working with you and look forward to working with you again. My suggestion would be to participate in a "Starting Right" board self-evaluation after the election to help form the new governance team.

Sincerely,

Barbara B. Toney, Field Services Director

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