

Characteristics of good board members

- **Commitment to the public and to the mission of the board**
- **Propensity to think in terms of systems and contexts**
- **Experience in dealing with values, vision, and the long term**
- **Ability to participate effectively and affirmatively in discussion**
- **Willingness to delegate, to allow others to make decisions**
- **Awareness of staff's knowledge in implementation of policy.**
- **Willingness to share power and negotiate fairly**
- **Honesty, directness and integrity**
- **Independent judgment, courage and good faith**
- **Making time available to conduct Board business, both during and between quarterly meetings**

Duties of the Board Member

- **Duty of Attention:** Spend the necessary time to prepare for and attend meetings, participate in discussions, review material, and ask questions.
- **Duty of Loyalty:** Always act in the best interest of the public; disclose and avoid conflict of interest; no self-dealing; maintain confidentiality; be fair. Refer procedural questions to staff.
- **Duty of Care:** Make informed decisions in good faith; act as a prudent person; use a good process for decision-making; be honest. Ensure that adequate records are made of board actions.
- **Duty of Obedience:** Know and adhere to state law and administrative rules; support board decisions and policies; honor contracts.