



NATIONAL CHARTER SCHOOLS INSTITUTE

BOARD GOVERNANCE AND LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

The Institute believes that effective charter school governance enhances the probability for charter school success; therefore, it is crucial for board members to understand their role, recognize their responsibilities, cultivate effective relationships and be made aware of compliance-related issues. The Institute's **Board Governance and Leadership Development Program** covers all of these critical elements of effective board governance and more through our **Tools for the Trade** modules.

Tools for the Trade - 90

Tools for the Trade - 90 is designed to serve as a charter school board primer. This 90-minute, succinct presentation offers a glimpse into the critical elements involved in effective board governance (see sidebar) while capturing the value of critical documents such as the charter contract, bylaws, third-party contracts, etc. In this session, novice and veteran board members alike will be reminded of legal requirements as they relate to the Open Meetings and Freedom of Information Acts, as well as the important role board policy plays in responsible governance. Board members will gain a better understanding of how a well planned board meeting agenda can help board members prepare for effective discussions and decisions; the board's role in goal setting, fiscal stewardship and maintaining effective relationships with management. Participating boards will receive a resource binder containing valuable reference materials for future use.

Tools for the Trade – 360

Tools for the Trade - 360 offers a more in-depth look at the **Tools for the Trade** components (see sidebar) in a one-day format. Participating schools will develop a working knowledge of how to appropriately apply each of these components to their respective board experiences. Each participating member will receive a copy of *Charter School Board University, Making the Mission Matter – A Guidebook for Developing Rigorous Goals and Measures* and a resource binder that contains useful reference materials for future use.



Tools for the Trade Components:

-  *Overview of Charter Schools*
-  *Roles and Functions of School Boards*
-  *Board Interpretation of Testing Data*
-  *Making the Mission Matter*
-  *Fiscal Stewardship*
-  *Public Records Act(s)*
-  *Liability Issues*
-  *Conflicts of Interest*
-  *Effective Board Meetings*
-  *Organizational Meeting*
-  *Group Dynamics/Facilitation*
-  *Decision-Making and Conflict Resolution*
-  *Board Recruitment*
-  *New Board Member Orientation*
-  *Board Assessment*
-  *Management Assessment*
-  *Strategic Planning*
-  *Charter School Board/Management*

Tools for the Trade – A La Carte

Tools for the Trade – a la carte offers the opportunity to learn more about any one or several of the ***Tools for the Trade*** components (see sidebar). The selected components will be customized to meet the specific needs of the participating school, delivered in a format most convenient to the school board(s).