

## LOCAL CHURCH BOARD SURVEY

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Please reflect on the local church board with whom you work most closely. Your perceptions and opinions will guide us in the seminar as we determine the most needed areas for discussion. Where do you need to focus in your mentoring role with the church board? Your responses will be used to help form a basis for generalized observations and also an agenda for subsequent intentional development of the board you lead.

Please rate each statement as (1) strongly agree, (2) agree, (3) disagree, (4) strongly disagree.

### A. Board and Mission

1. The local church Board ensures that the mission of the local church is clearly stated and understood both on the Board and throughout the congregation. 1 2 3 4
2. Board members know, communicate, and make decisions in light of the church's mission, vision, and values. 1 2 3 4
3. Board members tend to ask the "big" or right questions for missional strategy, and fiduciary focus and clarity. 1 2 3 4

### B. Board/Pastor Relations

1. The Board understands the dual responsibilities of the Pastor as "shepherd of the flock" and as the chairperson of the local church Board. 1 2 3 4
2. The Board works closely with the Pastor in shaping and evaluating *policies* for fiduciary oversight, developing *strategic plans* and *programs*, and providing *policy* and *program reviews*. 1 2 3 4
3. There is a climate of mutual trust and support between the Board and the Pastor. 1 2 3 4
4. The Board openly champions the current direction for the local church and vision as advocated by the Pastor and affirmed by the Board. 1 2 3 4
5. The Pastor keeps the Board informed on strategic issues facing the local church. 1 2 3 4

### C. Member to Member Relations

1. Members of the Board communicate with each other and address conflict situations as Christians. 1 2 3 4
2. Board members vigorously discuss policy options in the Board meetings; yet communicate a united voice to the congregation once a decision has been made. 1 2 3 4

3. Discussion among members in Board meetings focuses on missional, policy and strategic questions, not on personality and personal differences. 1 2 3 4
4. Board members nurture strong personal relationships within the Board. 1 2 3 4
5. Confidential discussions in Board meetings remain confidential following the Board meetings. 1 2 3 4

**D. The Board Agenda**

1. The Board agenda reflects a clear understanding of the role, purpose, and function of the Board. 1 2 3 4
2. The Board has a detailed agenda established for each meeting and the agenda is received in a timely manner. 1 2 3 4
3. Meeting agendas focus on policy issues and mission planning. 1 2 3 4
4. The Board agenda includes all necessary supporting information. 1 2 3 4

**E. The Organization of the Board**

1. The Board is organized such that it is effective, garners high-level participation, and engenders confidence from its constituencies. 1 2 3 4
2. The Board is composed of a sufficient cross section of strong and mature members to allow it to significantly develop the local church. 1 2 3 4
3. The Board has approved a property master plan and monitors the maintenance programs sufficiently to be assured that they are not deferred to the detriment of the local church. 1 2 3 4
4. The Board designates specific times *yearly* for prayer and planning. 1 2 3 4
5. The committee structure facilitates the work of the Board efficiently. 1 2 3 4

**F. The Functioning of the Board**

1. The Board seeks feedback from and communicates effectively with the congregation regarding issues and actions of the Board. 1 2 3 4
2. The Board takes leadership responsibility for the financial management of the local church, and fund-raising, if necessary, to assure that sufficient resources are available to fulfill the mission of the church. 1 2 3 4
3. The Board periodically evaluates its own functioning and effectiveness as a Board. 1 2 3 4
4. The Board maintains and posts appropriate written minutes of the meetings, and has a Board Handbook for its policies. 1 2 3 4



Additional Comments:

Developed by BoardServe.org

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For additional material, read *Best Practices for Effective Boards*,

by Fairbanks, Couchenour and Gunter, Nazarene Publishing House, 2012.

A DVD, *Building Better Boards*, is available to use with boards in board development sessions.

Contact the author and producer at the address above.

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