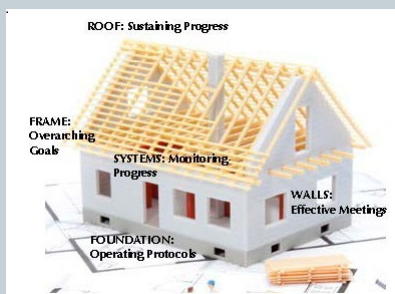


District Governance Support Project

1



THE FOUNDATION: OPERATING PROTOCOLS

Handout: W1-10

Agenda for Today

- Effective School Committees
- Self-evaluation of Operating Protocols
- Looking forward – Discuss School Committee goals

WHAT IS THE MOST IMPORTANT RESPONSIBILITY?

3



WHAT IS THE MOST IMPORTANT RESPONSIBILITY?

4

**STUDENT
ACHIEVEMENT**

School Committee Practices are Related to Student Achievement

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- Committees in high achieving districts are “different in their actions and beliefs” than those in low achieving districts. (Lighthouse Study)
- Common practices of “high functioning” committees were identified in *The Essential School Board Book, Better Governance in the Age of Accountability*. (Walser 2009)
- School Committees must be critical partners in systemic, sustained reform. (Panasonic Guide)

Handout: W1-10

Effective School Boards Positively Influence Student Achievement

6

- Vision of High Expectations
- Focus on Accountability
- Foster Strong Relationships
- Use Data to Monitor Progress
- Lead as a United Team
- Collaboration*Trust*Respect

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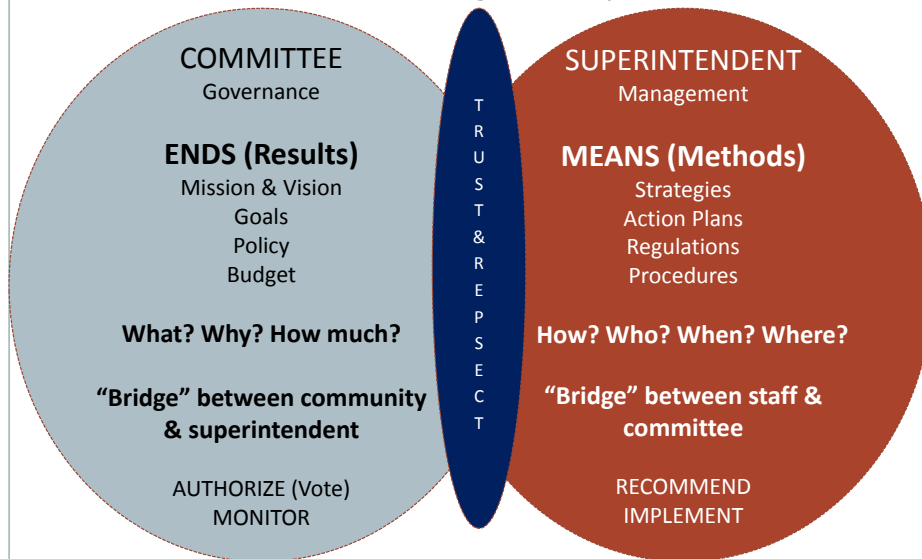
WHAT EFFECTIVE SCHOOL COMMITTEES LOOK LIKE

7

- Goal-setting, Monitoring Progress
- Varied, Purposeful Meetings Focused on Student Achievement
- Self-Governance
- Board Professional Development
- Strong Superintendent-School Committee Collaboration

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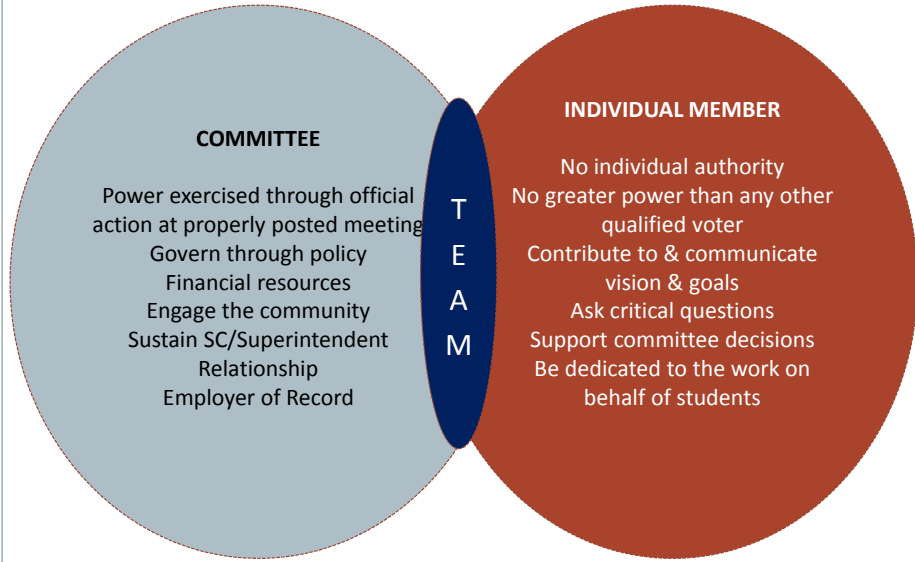
Understanding & Respect for Roles



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8

Understanding & Respect for Roles



Operating Protocols

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What are Operating Protocols?

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- Series of ground rules created, maintained, and periodically revised by Committee members and the Superintendent
- Document that can be used for Committee self-evaluation
- Set of common preconditions that enable groups of people to work together civilly and productively

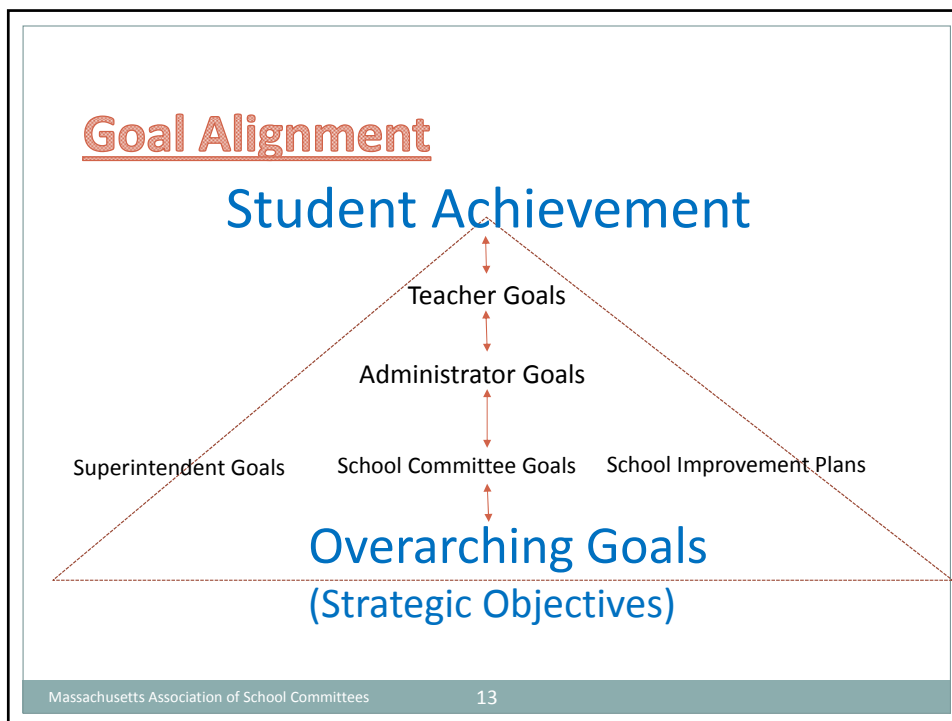
Handout: W1-10

What Operating Protocols are NOT

12

- A way to stifle dissent or disagreement
- A way to suppress free speech
- A way for the majority to control the minority
- A way to control information
- A way to limit communication beyond the Open Meeting Law

Handout: W1-10



Goals Frame & Structure SC Work

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- Along with Superintendent, ensure alignment of goals throughout district
- Monitor progress toward goals through presentations at School Committee meetings
- Ensure budget supports Strategic Objectives & Strategic Initiatives
- Support progress toward goals through actions within the Committee's purview (SC Goals)

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School Committee Goals

- What actions, within your purview, need to be addressed this year?
- How would you articulate the actions as SMART goals?
- What **outcomes** do you seek and how will you measure progress?
- What is a reasonable and appropriate number of goals?
- How do these priorities support the Strategic Blueprint for the district?

Discussion

- What do we view as the **OUTCOME** for this goal?
- How will the district “look” different when this goal is accomplished?
- What steps (outputs) will lead to the desired outcome?
- What evidence will help us understand progress toward achieving this goal?

Wrap-Up

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- Questions?
- Next steps?
- Thank you!

Handout: W1-10