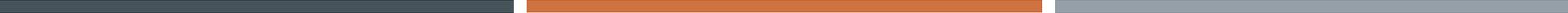




# HOW TO ... BECOME AN EFFECTIVE BOARD PRESIDENT

LIVE WEBINAR – 2023/2024: 9/20/23

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1

Step 1.  
Develop your “job  
description”

2

Step 2.  
Assess leadership  
skills

3

Step 3.  
Put in the time

4

Step 4.  
Encourage  
Process/Systems  
Development

5

Step 5.  
“Be the Guide on  
the Side”

## FIVE STEPS TO BECOMING AN EFFECTIVE BOARD PRESIDENT

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## STEP I: DEVELOP YOUR JOB DESCRIPTION

- [Identify both practical skills and leadership skills necessary for job/role](#)
- Include any unique and specific board/academy nuances
- [Sample job description](#)



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## STEP 2: ASSESS LEADERSHIP SKILLS

- Be thoughtful about your “board chair” skills
- Differentiate “CEO” skills from board leadership skills
- What kind of leader do I want to be for my board (and work toward becoming that leader)? *Hint: Good board leaders are facilitators NOT commanders.*



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## STEP 3: PUT IN TIME

- Spend appropriate time with school leadership/management
- Take leadership role in preparing for meetings
- Be knowledgeable about agenda topics and contribute to its development



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## STEP 4: ENCOURAGE PROCESS/SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT

*“Board chair interventions are focused on process and people rather than on content.”\**

- Utilize processes/systems to guide board discussion
- Processes predict results
- Ensure processes/systems create conditions for board engagement

\*Source: How to be a Good Board Chair  
Harvard Business Review 2018  
By: Stanislav Shekshnia



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## STEP 5: BE THE “GUIDE ON THE SIDE”

- Be restrained
- Be patient
- Be available



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EVALUATING BOARD  
CHAIR? SHOULD YOU?  
DO YOU?

*As your leadership goes, so  
goes your board ...*



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*“Great board chairs create conditions  
that allow other people to shine.”*

How to be a Good Chair  
Harvard Business Review 2018  
By: Stanislav Shekshnia





**THANK YOU!**

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