

# Data-Driven Governance for Student Achievement Zoom Session – 12/9/25

# **Power Questions to Ask**

#### **Academic Performance: The Primary Indicator**

- 1. What do our data tell us about whether students are learning and progressing? (Big-picture proficiency + growth.)
- 2. Where are the most significant strengths and gaps across grades and subjects? (Reveals patterns, not isolated events.)
- 3. **Are all student groups showing equitable progress?** (Checks for fairness and mission integrity.)
- 4. **Are students growing not just proficient?** (Growth reflects school impact.)
- 5. What instructional strategies or approaches are producing the strongest gains? (Shows what works without micromanaging.)
- 6. What evidence shows that curriculum is being implemented with fidelity? (Ensures instruction matches expectations.)
- 7. **How well do formative assessments predict end-of-year performance?** (Tests reliability of leading indicators.)
- 8. What actions has leadership taken in response to recent data? (Focuses on responsiveness and capacity.)
- 9. **Which interventions are working and for which students?** (Connects data to support systems.)
- 10. Are we on track to meet our annual academic goals and charter commitments? (Links data to accountability.)

#### Climate and Culture: The Conditions for Learning

- 1. What do student, family, and staff surveys tell us about safety, belonging, and engagement? (Captures lived experience.)
- 2. **Are classrooms consistently safe, orderly, and conducive to learning?** (Focuses on conditions, not walkthroughs.)
- 3. How do attendance and chronic absenteeism trends impact engagement and achievement? (Key leading indicator.)
- 4. **What do discipline data show about fairness, consistency, and support?** (Equity + restorative practices.)

- 5. **Are all student groups reporting equitable experiences?** (Ensures climate consistency.)
- 6. What are our teacher retention rates and what influences retention? (Signals culture and stability.)
- 7. What supports or professional learning help teachers create strong classroom environments? (Connects culture to adult practice.)
- 8. **What early warning indicators signal student disconnection?** (Proactive view of risk.)
- 9. **How well are students connected to at least one caring adult?** (Powerful predictor of engagement.)
- 10. Are we making measurable progress toward climate and culture goals? (Checks consistency across grades.)

### **Operational and Compliance: The Infrastructure of Achievement**

- 1. Are we fully staffed with qualified teachers, and how timely are vacancies filled? (Staffing stability.)
- 2. What is our teacher retention rate, and why do teachers stay or consider leaving? (Instructional continuity.)
- 3. **Do teachers have curriculum, materials, and technology needed?** (Resource adequacy.)
- 4. **Are intervention resources sufficient to meet student needs?** (Supports match expectations.)
- 5. What operational barriers impact instructional time or learning? (Identifies systemic issues.)
- 6. **Are compliance requirements being met with quality and timeliness?** (Boards ensure compliance health.)
- 7. To what extent are compliance tasks pulling leaders from instructional leadership? (Prevents leadership drift.)
- 8. **What is the condition of our facility and technology systems?** (Ensures operational stability.)
- 9. **Are financial resources aligned with instructional priorities?** (Links budget to strategy.)
- 10. What early indicators signal operational risks? (Proactive oversight.)

#### **Mission-Aligned Outcomes: The Compass**

- 1. How well do programs and practices reflect our mission and founding purpose? (Checks for mission drift.)
- 2. What evidence shows students are developing mission-driven competencies? (Skills beyond academics.)
- 3. How do we know students are prepared for next steps (grade, high school, college/life)? (Readiness-focused.)
- 4. Are we serving the community we were created to serve? (Community alignment.)

- 5. What feedback do families and students offer on our mission delivery? (Multiple perspectives.)
- 6. **Which mission-specific programs show impact?** (Outcome-based review.)
- 7. **How are we measuring success beyond test scores?** (Whole-child view.)
- 8. What opportunities connect students to real-world learning or service? (Deep learning indicators.)
- 9. **Are resources aligned with mission priorities?** (Financial alignment.)
- 10. What indicators show we are moving toward or away from our mission? (Early detection of drift.)



# AirWin Educational Services 3

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## **Domain Connection Matrix**

## **Step 1** — Capture the Current Status of Each Domain

Domain	Key Trends / Data Points
Academic Performance	
Climate & Culture	
Operations & Compliance	
Mission-Aligned Outcomes	

# **Step 2** — **Identify Connections Across Domains**

Domain Connection	Guiding Questions for Boards	Observed Connection (Notes)
Academics ↔ Climate	Do attendance, behavior, or engagement trends help explain academic results?	
Academics ↔ Operations	Have staffing, resources, or compliance issues affected academic performance?	
Academics ↔ Mission	Are academic results aligned with mission expectations?	
Climate ↔ Operations	Are operational conditions contributing to climate challenges or stability?	
Climate ↔ Mission	Does the school's culture reflect mission-driven values?	
Operations ↔ Mission	Do operational decisions reinforce mission priorities?	

# Step 3 — Identify Emerging Patterns • \_\_\_\_\_\_ • \_\_\_\_ Step 4 — Determine Potential Root Causes • \_\_\_\_\_\_ • \_\_\_\_ Step 5 — Governance-Level Action Step Priority Board Action: Monitoring Plan (What, How Often):