



Mission Statement
**Preparing today's students for tomorrow's world in a caring
learning environment.**
Vision Statement
Every Student, Every Day

Mid-Prairie Community School District
Central Administration Office
1636 Highway 22 East
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Notes from 8-14-25 Board/Admin Work Session

Thank you for inviting me to work with your board admin team on August 14. The team worked hard and had some great conversations and collaboration! I'm offering a quick recap of your workshop. I'm also attaching pictures I took showing the work you did.

The team celebrated the work they have done over the past year by answering the question "In the past year, what are two things the board has done to help foster student success in your district?" You shared your answers with each other and found that several of you had similar answers.

Facilitator recommends: Do this exercise every year. Recognize the work you do and how even the smallest of actions ties back to student success. Discuss what specific actions the board takes to support the list you create, reminding you of your important governance role.

You then took a few of those specific examples and worked with a partner to identify for each item what was the specific action the board took, what the superintendent did and what the principals did. The purpose of this exercise was to identify that you each have key roles and trusting each other in the work you do is key. The team also quickly identified that each of those three roles is necessary, and one role leads to the next. one participant said, "I'd never given any thought to what happens before or after the board approves something". This was a great way to dig into the governance role of the board.

The next activity was around analyzing a picture when you don't have all the details. The team identified right away it is difficult to create a list of true facts when you can't ask any questions or rely on just what something looks like. We talked about the work you do together as a board and the importance of asking good questions and always leading with a positive intent.

The last activity was one focused on trust. Participants identified a time when they felt deep trust with someone. Then they were asked to describe what specific actions or behaviors happened that created that trust. You reviewed your work together and identified that you had a lot of similar actions identified. Then the board identified from the list created what were specific areas they wanted to focus on. The board had a discussion about what they would do with these key areas and how you might discuss them and measure progress. Those areas were:

- Collaboration with others
- Genuine Relationships
- Follow Through
- Developing a relationship of trust

Facilitator recommends: Take the four areas you identified as areas of focus and clearly define what actions make up each area. As a board, answer the question, "What will the staff and community hear and see us doing when we are successfully doing "x" (insert one for our talking

points above). Discuss how you will hold each other accountable to your work both at and away from the board table. When the board is really focused on this work consider how you might begin to work with other groups the board identifies they have an opportunity to build trust with. Remember that building trust takes time and doesn't happen only because you desire it.

Facilitator recommends: Jake, please share this email with the board team. Take time at your next meeting to discuss your learning and identify what your next steps might be.

It is always a privilege to support your work. Please let me know you I can continue to be of service to you all!

Best,
Tammi Drawbaugh