

Spokane International Academy Board Retreat Notes

PURPOSE OF THE BOARD- ACTIVITY

Advise

- Critical thought partners
- Provide additional knowledge to aid SIA
- Provide thought partnership, consultation, and provide the final authority on mission-related decisions
- Provide knowledge/specialized skills/knowledge
- Provide perspective

Advocate

- Be a voice for students & families of SIA
- Advocate and bridge to community at large
- Community advocate

Mission Alignment

- Keep SIA on mission/support meeting the mission of SIA
- Clear & concise mission statement
- Strategic planning
- Goal setting
- Provides thoughtful feedback and vision impact

Oversight

- Provide financial and compliance oversight/clear oversight of SIA
- Assure compliance with Charter School Commission contract
- Sign off on purchases over \$50,000
- Provide supervision for the Head of School
- School continuum/continuity

Support

- Support Head of School/Morgen
- Encouragement
- Encourage continuous improvement

IDEAS FOR BOARD EFFECTIVENESS - ACTIVITY

Principle	Ideas	Votes
Continuous Learning		3
Ethos of Transparency	• How do we engage our students, Families, and community partners in the collective impact of SIA's mission? • We would like to foster mutual relationships & close communication loop with stakeholders • Set a routine schedule for staff, parents, and students to provide information to the Board. Board will be intentional in inviting representatives	4 4 9
Intentional Board Practices	• Attendance; Goals; Preparation; Advance question/reading • Communication of initiatives to school employees and parents/students/public • Review of charter (bylaws and committee charters)	10 6 2
Revitalization	• Purposeful Board changes	3
Strategic Thinking	• Revise/revisit strategic plan • Full Board initiative and action plan • Committee execution and results	10 8 7 7

	● Board to be active in “big & Bold” goals (reach for the stars)	
Sustaining Resources	● Board Participation; Events; Fundraising interventions	9

BOARD PRIORITIES 2024-2025 - ACTIVITY

Idea	1st Step	Score
Strategic plan – Board impact on Mission of SIA	Revisit – Revise- Communicate Strategic Plan	25
	Review what has been done	15
Sustaining resources	Begin planning in 4th quarter for ten-year anniversary celebration to include silent auction and recognition of SIA’s first graduating class- Event to occur in 1st quarter or April 2025.	24
Shared understanding of where we are as an organization	Review the Charter, Strategic plan and Board Bylaws	21
Full Board priorities & action plan Prepare board initiative based on strategy and delegate initiatives to committees.	(as Board and within committees) A) ID priorities and align work with SIA mission and strategic plan B) Committee charters and tasks for the year as well as reporting timelines This can be based on the information obtained from the retreat today.	20

Idea	1st Step	Score
		13
Communication of initiatives to school employees and parents/students/public	Decide on cadence, schedule and platform	19
10-year celebration	Pick a date	18
Streamline committee work and role of Board members Create charters for each committee	Identify committees and who is chair/member 1) Review all current committees to determine if they are still the right fit/need for SIA 2) Each committee then draft initial 'charter' to bring to the Board as a whole	18 12
Set a routine schedule for staff, parents, and students to provide info to the Board.	Decide how frequently these outside members should come to Board meetings	19
Align SIA groups (Board, family, leaders, student leaders, and staff leaders)	Identify point of contacts for outside groups Invite participation Develop Agency committee- create list of meetings and Board member to attend	16
The Board will be intentional about inviting parent, student, staff and community committees to our Board meetings.	Step 1: Identify who will be invited Step 2: Create a calendar of Board meetings for the year Step 3: Invite one group to a scheduled Board meeting over the course of a year Step 4: create an individualized initiation	16

Idea	1 st Step	Score
Encourage higher engagement on Board meetings & other Board activities (better attendance and dialogue)	First step: At a Board meeting, probably sooner than later, go over clear expectations & responsibilities of Board members.	16
Identify fundraising event (auction, dinner, etc.) that could support foundation and is reproducible on an annual basis.	Step one: Identify the type of event to host based on our campus facilities	16

Retreat Resources

- o [Quick Guide: Charity & Nonprofit Board Service in WA State](#)
- o [Bylaws](#)
- o [Board Policies](#)