



Guidelines for Governing Boards

**Robert Morris
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Project Summary: The original planned project was altered through a decision to make a transition to Ponoka Christian School effective in the summer of 2008. In this transition process, I learned a significant amount about relationships between a head of school and a school's governing board.

Project Results: From my experiences, I recommend the following:

Guidelines for Governing Boards:

- ✚ There should be clear outlines of roles and responsibilities for board members, the parent council, and administration.
- ✚ Board members need to be from a diverse community. Board members who are parents often make decisions based on their own child's needs. Community members, such as those whose children have attended and graduated from the school, have a different perspective on the school as a whole.
- ✚ All board members (and others who report to the board) must participate in board training and development sessions.

What I Have Learned

- It is important to begin each board meeting with an extended time of prayer, not just as a quick prayer out of obligation. Asking God's blessing on the meeting and seeking his guidance regarding decisions is essential for the school and for building community.
- All decisions need to reflect the mission statement and values that the school professes.
- Board members need to spend time getting to know each other. They are members of a team.