

Commandments for the Governance Team

How Did Charter Schools Start and Why

- ▶ 1992 Legislation to start 100 charter schools No one wanted vouchers
- ▶ Originally it was to start schools for innovation and educator leaders were tired of all the paperwork and waste of time in running schools
- ▶ Approved after lot of union push back.
- ▶ Grew because of parent demand
- ▶ 1200 charters in CA today

The Oath of Office for An Elected Board Member

- ▶ **"I, name, do solemnly swear that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of California against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of California; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties upon which I am about to enter."**

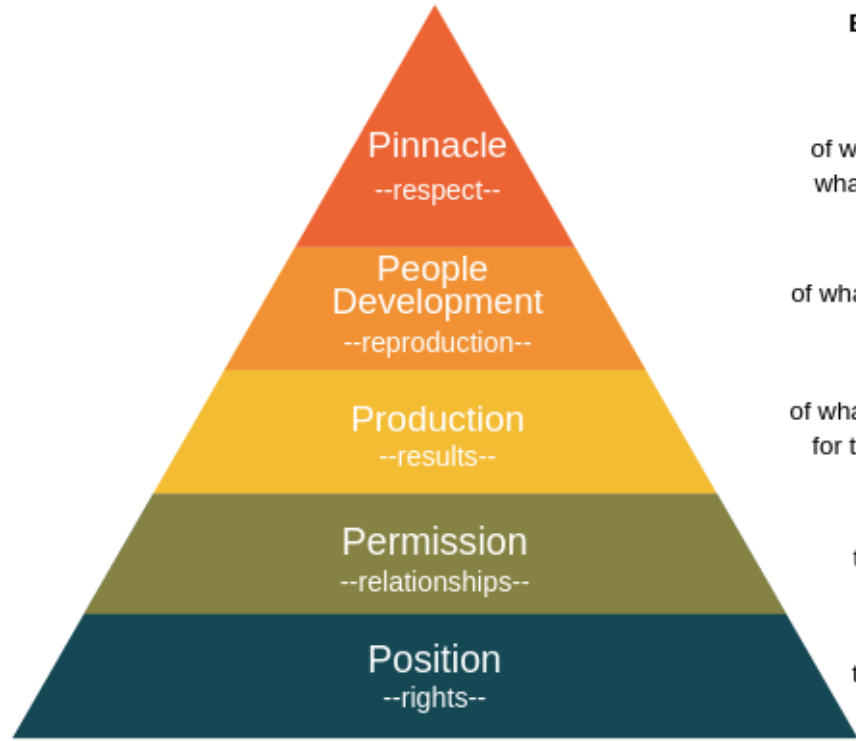
You Are Doing An Amazing Job....In An Incredible Difficult Time

- ▶ **Pandemic**
- ▶ **Wildfires**
- ▶ **Economy**
- ▶ **National State and Local Election Mayhem**
- ▶ **Social Media**
- ▶ **Anxiety, Depression and Trauma**
- ▶ **Anger**
- ▶ **No LIVE MUSIC, THEATRE, DANCING, SPORTS**
- ▶ **Human Interaction**

5 Levels of Leadership (Maxwell)

LEVEL

5
4
3
2
1



PEOPLE FOLLOW YOU
BECAUSE...

of who you are and
what you represent
of what you have done
for them
of what you have done
for the organization
they want to
they have to

Leadership

Focus on goals
Sell it
Take risks
Encourage
Go against the grain
Motivate
Break the rules
Inspire trust
Foster ideas

Management

Focus on tasks
Tell it
Minimize risks
Instruct
Go with the flow
Approve
Follow the rules
Expect control
Assign tasks

Accomplish a goal
Mobilize resources
Explain vision

**THEY GOVERNANCE TEAM
SHALL KEEP THE BEST
INTEREST OF STUDENTS AS
▶ THE PRIORITY!**

- ▶ The Governance Team gives direction, provides stability, and instills confidence in the staff and community.

- ▶ School Districts perform best when there is a strong partnership between the Board and the Superintendent. This partnership doesn't develop by chance; the Superintendent and the Board members must carefully cultivate it to become a TEAM!





**THOU SHALL SERVE WITH
DIGNITY AND HUMOR!**

THOU SHALT UNDERSTAND YOUR ROLE AS A TRUSTEE!

A Trustee's job is not to run the District well, but to see the District is well run.

Your actions and decisions, both individually and collectively, should always be guided by what is best for the students of the District; your personal commitment should never stray from a determination to provide the best possible education for each student.

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- ▶ Your authority, your power as a Trustee lies not with you as an individual, but rather with you as a **member of the team**. It is the Board, **not an individual**, that establishes the policies which provide direction for the District.
 - ▶ Remember, you were elected to be a Trustee, **not an administrator**.

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- ▶ Your role is to establish policy and set goals. It is up to the Superintendent to manage the District and get it where the Board says it needs to go.

 - ▶ Trustees do not get into the day-to-day running of the District;

- ▶ Significant instructional change will not occur unless the Governance Team shows strong, passionate leadership and focuses on instruction.
- ▶ How students think, how they best learn, and how schools can best serve their diverse population is the key question for the 21st century leader.

**THOU SHALL ALWAYS FOLLOW
THE CHAIN OF COMMAND!**

- ▶ The Board's only employee is the Superintendent, and the Board gives instruction to him or her alone.
 - If the issue will affect the entire **organization**, it is a **policy**.
 - If the issue will affect an **individual** employee, it is most likely **administrative** in nature.
 - Remember, there are fields of grey!

THOU SHALT HOLD CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS IN CONFIDENCE!

- ▶ Closed session agenda items must be kept confidential! You have to be able to trust each other, and it is the law!



THERE SHALL BE NO SURPRISES AT A BOARD MEETING!



Adopt a “no secrets - no surprises” policy.



Do not surprise your Superintendent, fellow Board Members, or administrators at your meeting in public with unexpected comments or requests.

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PULLING TOGETHER

ONLY WORKS WHEN YOU'RE NOT JERKING IN OPPOSITE DIRECTIONS LIKE IDIOTS.

THOU SHALL COME PREPARED FOR BOARD MEETINGS!

- ▶ Review your Board packet before the meeting.
- ▶ If you have questions, call the Superintendent.
- ▶ If you have not read your Board packet ...
 - Open it before you get out of the car
 - Don't ask too many questions that expose ignorance resulting from your lack of preparation

Never forget ...

**A School Board meeting is a
meeting held in public,
not a public meeting!
(unless on agenda)**

∥

How Long Should
a School Board
Meeting Last?



THOU SHALT NOT EXPECT UNANIMOUS VOTES ALL THE TIME

Expect to be in the minority on Board decisions once in a while, and accept the majority decision graciously. The time to voice your opinions about issues is before the vote is taken.

**THOU SHALT REMEMBER THAT NO MATTER WHAT
THE CONTROVERSY...
THIS TOO WILL PASS**

- ▶ Deal with issues and interest, not power and positions.
- Agree to disagree, but don't be disagreeable.
- Ensure that split decisions do not result in a split Governance Team!

**THOU SHALL
NOT SPEND
MORE MONEY
THAN THOU
HASETH!**
Trustees:

Adopt and oversee the annual budget and allocate resources to the needs of the District.

Adopt policies that give the District direction to set priorities and achieve its goals.

FCMAT Predictors of School Agencies Needing Intervention



**THOU SHALT FOLLOW THE
GOVERNANCE HANDBOOK!**

▶ **IF YOU DON'T HAVE ONE,
DEVELOP ONE!**

Vision Statement

- ▶ The Vision of the California Montessori Project is to provide a Montessori education that supports the intellectual, social and emotional development of every child.
- ▶ This will be achieved by:
 - ▶ □ Promoting independence
 - ▶ □ Teaching respect for oneself and others
 - ▶ □ Building confidence
 - ▶ □ Creating a sense of social responsibility,
 - ▶ □ Empowering every student to be a global citizen.

Mission Statement

The Mission of the California Montessori Project is to offer a quality, tuition-free Montessori Education that challenges our students to reach their full potential.

TEAM

- ▶ Together
- ▶ Everyone
- ▶ Achieves
- ▶ More