# Establishing a Positive Board Culture

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# **Board Culture - Defined**

Set of traditions and habits established over time that guide behavior – written and unwritten rules that influence relationships between board members . . .

#### **BOARD DYNAMICS**

"Board culture has a significant influence on the way your board carries out its work and shapes your board performance."

**Board Source** 



## Characteristics of a Positive Board Culture

> Healthy and respectful relationships between and among all stakeholders

> Trusting and candid interactions

Commitment to vision and mission

> Holding each other accountable – a governance system of accountability



#### Healthy and Respectful Relationships

- Open, honest and transparent communication(s)
- Willingness to foster relationships
- Building a culture of teamwork and support
- Effective conflict resolution

# Trust and Candor

- Consistency in decision-making
- Creating a "safe" environment
- Ensuring information sharing openly and transparently
- Admitting mistakes
- Investing time



## Vision and Mission Commitment

- Encouraging vision/missiondriven decision-making
- Ensuring understanding of vision and mission
- Measuring vision/mission fulfillment
- Aligning goals with vision/mission



# System of Accountability

- Articulate clear governance expectations
- Adopting ethical standards or codes of conduct
- Ongoing professional development
- Self-evaluate



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THANK YOU!

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