



Governance

Charter Schools vs. District Schools - Key Differences:

- Charter schools and district schools are both public schools.
- Charter schools have more autonomy in the way they educate, and often have a specific academic focus.
- A "charter" is a contract granted by an authorizing board that allows a charter school to operate.

Your Responsibilities:

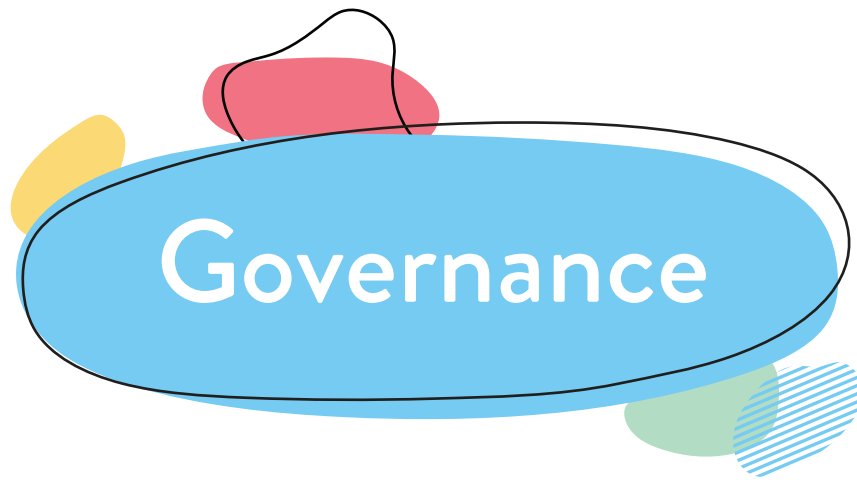
- Board membership is a significant responsibility - not to be taken lightly. Make sure you have enough time to do the job well.
- Once a board member, you are a representative of the school.
- It's your job to make sure the school is delivering on the promises of its mission.
- Board meetings are open to the public, so the process is important.



“Serving on the board of a charter school is an enormous responsibility that is not to be taken lightly.”

Carrie Chimerine Irvin
Co-founder & CEO - Education Board Partners





Governance vs. Management:

- Schools are run by the governing body (the board), and the management (the school's principal and administration).
- Boards focus on results, while school leaders focus on means.
- Strategic planning means setting and achieving goals in the service of the school's mission.
- Your board's handbook is your lifeline. Consult it often.

Broken Governance:

- When board members neglect their duties, the operation of the school suffers - this is called "Broken Governance."
- When governance becomes broken, meetings become disorganized, benchmarks are missed, and board structure collapses. Dedication to the job is vital.

Resources:

More resources are available at charterschoolgovernance.info

