



Gallatin County Board of Education Self-Evaluation Summary December 2010

	Rating: 4= strongly agree; 3=agree; 2=disagree; 1=strongly	4	3	2	1	NA
	Student Achievement (3.5)					
1.a	Our board holds itself ultimately responsible for high achievement by all students. (3.3)	2	4			
1.b	Our board communicates a sense of urgency about high achievement by all students. (3.3)	2	4			
1.c	We regularly examine data to determine where our achievement gaps exist, and how much progress is being made to reduce those gaps. (3.8)	5	1			
1.d	Our board could improve its leadership for higher student achievement by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Making sure to provide resources that effect all students</i> <i>Clearly defining our goals and communicating our expectations</i> <i>Use our GT teacher</i> <i>Board leadership is improving</i> 					
	District Vision and Goals (3.6)					
2.a	A vision statement for our district exists, and is periodically reviewed by the board. (4.0)	6				
2.b	Our vision statement is widely disseminated in the district. (3.7)	4	2			
2.c	The board adopts or reaffirms district goals each year through formal board action. (3.3)	3	2	1		
2.d	District goals are widely disseminated and emphasized in the district. (3.7)	5		1		
2.e	Discussion of major items before the board routinely includes consideration of their impact on meeting district goals. (3.5)	3	3			
2.f	The superintendent's evaluation considers how well the superintendent has addressed the district goals. (3.3)	3	2	1		
2.g	Our process for adopting, publicizing and monitoring the district's vision and goals could be improved by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Making sure goals are few and concise and clearly told</i> <i>The process is not clear, whether it is the board goals or the DIP or CIPs; clarify our process</i> <i>Publicizing more often; improve PR leadership</i> 					

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	Strategic Focus (3.4)					
3.a	Our board emphasizes setting and monitoring district goals, instead of how staff should achieve those goals. (3.2)	2	3	1		
3.b	Our board regularly receives and discusses information on progress toward achieving district goals. (3.8)	5	1			
3.c	Our district planning process is focused on long term strategic goals. (3.4)	3	1	1		1
3.d	Our board does not get bogged down discussing operation details of the district or schools. (3.3)	3	2	1		
3.e	Our board could devote more attention to strategic issues if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Our process was clear? Is the DIP our goals? We review it regularly but maybe there's more to do; staying out of details is always a challenge for some</i> <i>Participate in planning process</i> 					
	Board-Superintendent Relations (3.8)					
4.a	Each member of the board understands and respects the distinction between the board's responsibilities and the superintendent's duties. (3.8)	5	1			
4.b	The board and superintendent trust and respect one another. (3.7)	4	2			
4.c	The board and superintendent agree on the information needed by the board, and when and how the board receives that information. (4.0)	6				
4.d	Board members direct complaints and requests to the superintendent rather than attempting to solve them directly. (3.8)	5	1			
4.e	Board members do not attempt to micromanage. (3.8)	4	1			1
4.f	Our board and superintendent could be a more effective team if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>There was total and complete trust</i> <i>Setting goals and communicating exactly what we want to see accomplished</i> <i>More communication from individual members to Superintendent</i> 					
	Board Member Conduct and Ethics (3.5)					
5.a	Board members represent the interests of the entire district rather than just their own constituency. (3.5)	3	3			
5.b	Board members preserve the confidentiality of items discussed in executive session. (3.7)	4	2			
5.c	Once a decision has been made, all members respect the decision and the board speaks with one voice. (3.5)	4	1	1		
5.d	Board members keep the improvement of student achievement as their primary focus. (3.8)	5	1			
5.e	Board members do not use their office for personal gain or advancement. (3.7)	4	2			
5.f	The board takes time to learn together. (2.7)		4	2		
5.g	Board members do not attempt to individually speak on behalf of the board or commit the board. (3.7)	4	2			
5.h	Our board needs to address: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>We learn individually but share what we learn with each other (5f)</i> <i>Why we exist; if we began an annual goal setting meeting with this topic it might help</i> <i>Supporting the process and decision is vital</i> <i>The board does a satisfactory job; strong as a group</i> 					

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	Board Team Building (3.3)					
6.a	Board members participate in professional meetings together and stay up-to-date on developments affecting the district. (3.0)		6			
6.b	Board members maintain respect toward each other and staff. (3.5)	3	3			
6.c	We could be a better team if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>More communication within the board</i> 					
	Decision Making (3.9)					
7.a	All board members are routinely familiar with the agenda materials and are ready to discuss and decide important items. (4.0)	6				
7.b	Decisions on critical issues are based on available information and are made after all have had an opportunity to ask questions and speak. (3.8)	5	1			
7.c	Adequate background information on issues to come before the board is routinely provided in advance of the board meeting. (3.8)	5	1			
7.d	The quality of our decision making could be improved if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Our board approves whatever the Superintendent wants</i> <i>Board's thought process and decision making is very strong</i> 					
	Communication (3.7)					
8.a	Information about district issues is openly shared between board members, both formally and informally. (3.7)	4	2			
8.b	Our board and superintendent agree on how complaints or concerns to board members should be handled. (4.0)	6				
8.c	Board members work to avoid "surprises" by sharing concerns or questions with the superintendent in advance of the board meeting. (3.5)	3	3			
8.d	We could improve our communication as a board team if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Communicate a small amount more than normal between meetings</i> 					
	Budget Oversight (3.5)					
9.a	Our board receives adequate information on expenditures and the status of the district's long range financial picture. (3.5)	4	1	1		
9.b	Budget decisions by our board support the adopted district vision and goals to the degree possible. (3.8)	5	1			
9.c	Our board has a good understanding of the basic elements of the district budget. (3.3)	3	2	1		
9.d	We could improve our financial oversight by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Asking for detailed office and admin budget</i> <i>Only small amount of improvement needed; look for more cost cutting opportunities</i> 					

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	Meetings (3.9)					
10.a	Board members come to the meeting familiar with the agenda and prepared to discuss, ask questions, and take action on agenda items. (4.0)	6				
10.b	Meetings celebrate student achievement and accomplishment. (4.0)	6				
10.c	Meeting agendas provide opportunity for periodic status reports and discussion on student achievement and progress toward meeting district goals. (4.0)	6				
10.d	Meeting agendas provide opportunity for discussion, without action, of issues of interest to the board. (3.7)	4	2			
10.e	Our agenda provides for visitors to address the board. (3.8)	4	1			1
10.f	Our board meetings could be improved by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Continue doing what we're doing</i> 					
	Community Relations (3.9)					
11.a	The board maintains a positive relationship with local governmental officials and community leaders. (3.7)	4	2			
11.b	The board helps its legislators be well informed about the needs, accomplishments, and goals of the district. (4.0)	6				
11.c	Our board could be more effective working with local and state leaders by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Continuing to do what we do – annual meeting, phone calls, emails</i> <i>The board members are very politically astute and well connected; they use their knowledge and skills to enroll and educate local and state leaders</i> 					

NA = Not Answered

Additional Comments:

- This board is a high performing group!*