Top 10 Characteristics of a Highly Effective®
Charter School Governing Board

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Top 10 Characteristics of a Highly Effective®
Charter School Governing Board

1. Passionate, unwavering belief in the charter school’s mission and core values.

2. Clarity of collective vision—where the school is and where it wants to be in the future.

3. A firm understanding of the charter promises and a clear, consistent way to measure them.

4. Clarity of roles and responsibilities
   a. Role of the full board
   b. Role of individual board members
   c. Role of committees
   d. Role of the School Leader

5. Demonstration of a clear understanding of the difference between governance and management

6. Focused on results

7. The right structure
   a. Board size
   b. Composition
   c. Committee structure
   d. Officers

8. Board meetings—focused on strategic questions not just reporting

9. A School Leader who assists in the creation of effective governance

10. A strong partnership between the board and the School Leader that is built on mutual trust and respect.