
ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY BOARDS OF EDUCATION

STARTING STRONG SERIES: AMBASSADORSHIP & ADVOCACY

APRIL 7, 2023

6:00-7:00 PM

ACCBE KEY GOALS



Advocate & Amplify: ACCBE is solely dedicated to develop and advocate on legislative and policy issues for county boards of education, ensuring a unified and strong voice representing the unique interest of County Boards on issues impacting County Offices of Education.



Partnerships for Success: ACCBE is committed to building a strong partnership with the California Superintendent's Association, and coalitions with other allied groups to leverage resources and expertise in support of student success.



Engage, Elevate, & Empower: ACCBE builds leadership capacity within County Boards, fostering collaboration and peer support.



Forward-Looking: ACCBE focuses on innovation solutions to address the evolving challenges/changes in education.

PURPOSE OF STARTING STRONG SERIES

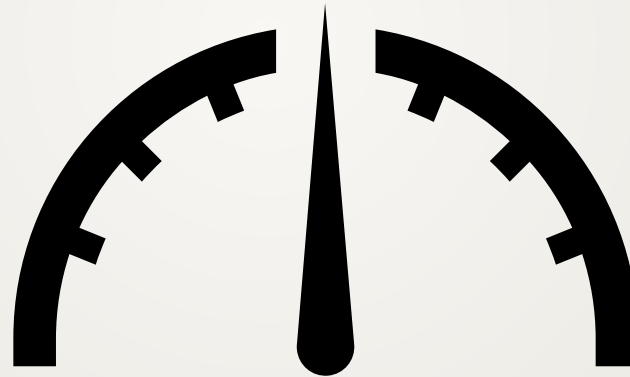
- **To Network** with Other New County Board Members from Around the State
- **To Learn** about The ACCBE, Member Benefits, and Mentoring Program
- **To Review** Trustee Roles and Responsibilities, Supt roles, and Trustee Handbook
- **Receive “Just in Time Coaching”**: On Immediate Questions/ Challenges/ Concern About Being A New Board Member

ICEBREAKER ACTIVITY

How prepared do you feel for your budget and compliance responsibilities in May and June?



Prepared & Ready



Getting There



Not Ready

REVIEW FROM MAR 3 STARTING STRONG APPELLATE ROLE OF COUNTY BOARDS

- Like most elected bodies, the county board of education hears and decides certain appeals.
- *Unique* to county boards is that they hear appeals from other local entities, school districts and charter schools authorized by district in the county.
- **Matters brought before a county board on appeal consist of:**
 1. Student Expulsions from local districts
 2. Interdistrict transfer denials by local districts

Trustee Handbook

QUESTIONS/COMMENT/CLARIFICATIONS



THE IMPERATIVE OF COLLABORATION



COUNTY BOARD

- ✓ Appellate role for districts
 - Interdistrict Transfers
 - Expulsion Appeals
 - Charter Appeals
- ✓ Purchasing leasing and conveying real property
- ✓ Govern court and community schools
- ✓ Authorize or govern charters
- ✓ Set sup salary
- ✓ Review annual Audit
- ✓ Approve LCAP

Shared vision & mission

Student outcomes

COE Budget

Court & Community Schools

COE Charter Schools

Community Engagement

Advocacy



COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT

- ✓ Accountability agent for districts
 - Approve district LCAP
 - Approve district budget
 - Charter Appeals
- ✓ County office employer
- ✓ Provider of regional services
- ✓ Operate court and community schools
- ✓ Statewide system of supports
- ✓ Prepare LCAP

COMPARING DEFINITIONS

Trustee Handbook

Community Engagement (Ambassadorship)

The county board, at its discretion, may also hold board workshops and community forums on matters within their scope of representation. The county board may also decide to participate in local and regional organizations and events, in alignment with county superintendent, to represent and advocate for the interests of students served by the county office.

Advocacy

Entirely appropriate for county board to express support for [public education policies and standards that benefit county offices on behalf of students and communities we serve.

Dictionary

Ambassador

Someone who represents and promotes a specific educational program, organization, or cause to a wider audience, engaging with students, parents, and community leaders to foster education and outreach

Advocate

Someone who supports students by promoting and justifying their educational rights, needs, and interests, by working with students, parents, educational institutions and legislative partners to ensure students receive necessary resources and accommodations

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AS AMBASSADORS

Community Engagement or “Ambassadorship” The county board, at its discretion, may also hold board workshops and community forums on matters within their scope of representation. The county board may also decide to participate in local and regional organizations and events, in alignment with county superintendent, to represent and advocate for the interests of students served by the county office.

Engagement Spectrum

Outreach

- Speak at meetings or community events
- Write article for PTA or local paper
- Issue alignment with school board association
- Summarize and explain bills and legislation
- Gathering community input

**Consult
Collaborate**

Shared Leadership

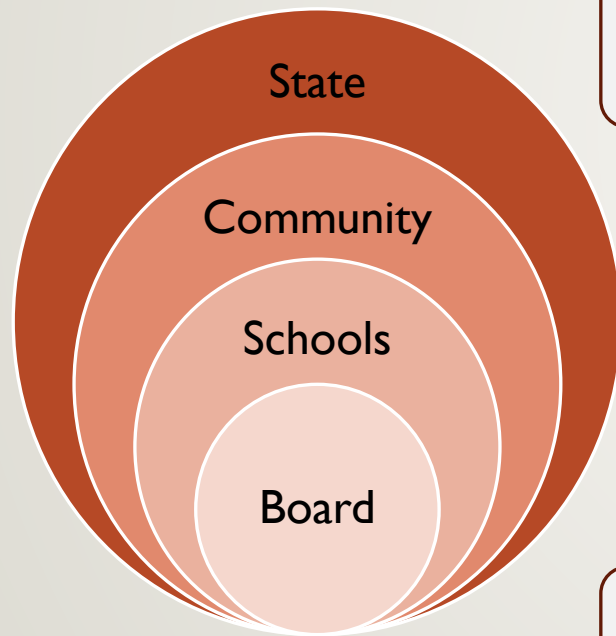
- Membership in associations and clubs
- Attend student sporting events
- Attend events at COE or CCS
- Annual Welcoming & Send Off
- Employee and volunteer recognition
- Serving on county board committees

We recognize that community engagement activities will look different across counties depending on size, geography, and demographics

ADVOCACY

Advocacy Entirely appropriate for county board to express support for public education policies and standards that benefit county offices on behalf of students and communities we serve.

4 Levels of Advocacy for Trustees



State – Leveraging relationships with state representatives and attending town halls to build support for programs or initiatives

Community – Engage county broadly on topics relevant to their schools, students and needs

Schools – Gather insights from staff, students, and community to understand challenges and successes

Board – Use community insights and individual passions to set the board meeting agendas by bringing up issues and asking questions during board meetings.

Recommendations

Board Meeting Agendas

- Create item on agenda for future topics in meeting
- Meet with board president or tenured members

School & Community Engagement

- Attend district board meetings to share what county board does
- Build relationships with K12 trustees
- Engaging with county on relevant topics

State

- Setting meeting with your state rep and staff to build relationships
- Attend local legislative action days

ACCBE ADVOCACY COMMITTEE

ACCBE has formed Advocacy Committee that will meet monthly to reviewing proposed legislation that impacts county offices and the students we serve.

ADVOCACY COMMITTEE CHARGE

Advisory Committee of the
ACCBE Board

Join and attend
subcommittee meetings

Monitor and analyze
legislation and policies
relevant to county offices

Recommend positions for
to the Board to take
publicly on legislation

Engage in the Legislative
process

Educate Stakeholder and
Communication

Build Coalitions with
trustees and boards across
the state

Develop ACCBE's annual
advocacy agenda

ACCBE ADVOCACY COMMITTEE

The Committee has met with Derick Lennox, Senior Director of Governmental Relations & Legal Affairs at California County Superintendents (CCS) to brief the Committee on CCS's 2025 legislative agenda.

SUPPORTED BILLS

AB 1224
(Valencia)

allows for substitute teachers to serve up to 60 days continuously in a classroom opposed to the current 30 day limit (20 for SPED).

AB 927
(Sharp-Collins)

extending time for conducting Williams schools inspections

AB 959
(Hadwick)

allows County Offices of Education to offer administrative credential internships

The Committee is gathering input from our members to develop criteria for reviewing legislation that reflects county board priorities. If you are passionate about shaping ACCBE's state and federal legislative priorities, please join us! **For more information contact secretary@accbe.org**

NEXT STEPS

- **SSDA/ACCBE “Working Together, Small Rural Districts Roundtable”** April 23rd
- **Special Topics: Board Culture & Positive Environment** for all board trustees **April 28**
- **“Starting Strong”** as a New County Board Trustee series May 5th
- **One-on-One “Coaching”** on demand for new Trustees and **Monthly Coaching sessions** for all trustees
- **Quarterly County Board Gathering** for all trustees June 2, Sept 1
- **ACCBE Advocacy/Policy Committee**, TBD.

ACCBE ON DEMAND COACHING PROGRAM

- One on One coaching by a seasoned Trustee
- Talk once a month
- Your Coach will support your questions, concerns and successes
- Examples of topics
 - Reviewing your board agenda's- questions you might ask, timing of certain items
 - How to use your board member report to make impact
 - What to look for in your LCAP , how to review your COE Budget or Audit report,
 - Review your board bylaws

Attend “Starting Strong new board member series” for group coaching