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# **“STARTING STRONG” AS A NEW COUNTY BOARD TRUSTEE**

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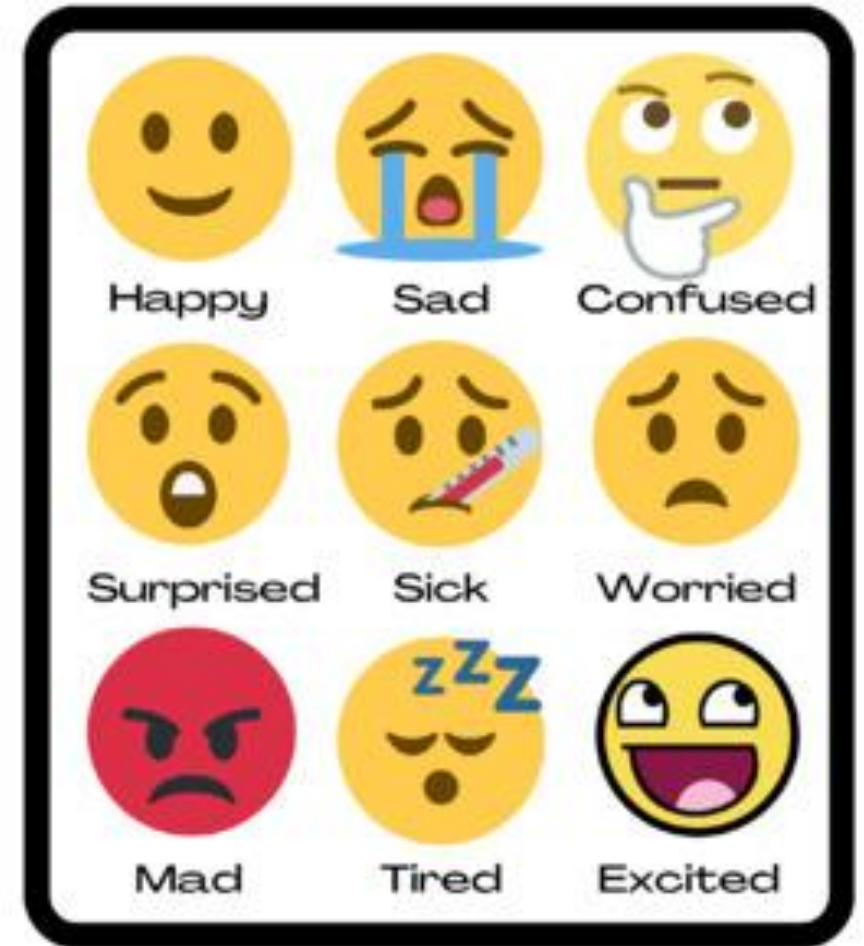
**FEBRUARY 3, 2025**

**5:00-6:15 PM**

# WELCOME!

- IN THE CHAT:
- Please write your name, County
- How you feel about being a new trustee?

## How am I Feeling?



# PURPOSE OF TODAY'S WEBINAR

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- **To Network** with Other New County Board Members From Around The State
- **To Learn** About The ACCBE And Member Benefits
- **To Explore** What County Boards Do, And The Trustee Roles And Responsibilities – Trustee Handbook
- **To encourage Sign Ups** For ACCBE County Board Member Mentoring And Coaching Supports
- **Receive “Just in Time Coaching”**: On Immediate Questions/Challenges/ Concern About Being A New Board Member

# ACCBE'S KEY GOALS

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- **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 group 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.

# Networking Activity

- Where you are located
- How long you have been a trustee
- **Why** you ran for office/What you hope to achieve
- What passion and/or skills do you bring to the position



# WHAT DO COUNTY BOARDS AND COUNTY OFFICES DO?

- From the California School Superintendents website
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# KEY ROLES AS A BOARD MEMBER

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- Being Prepared/doing your homework
- Setting Direction/Clarity on your values, purpose, goals as a group
- Creating Processes, policies and structures to be effective
- Creating a team and positive environment to govern
- Ensuring accountability: Getting results for students and families
- Being an ambassador for education and advocating for our students

Adapted from CSBA “Effective Governance System”

# CHALLENGES

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*The roles of the county board of education and the county superintendent of schools are different than those of district boards and superintendents...*

*The relationship between the county board of education and the county superintendent of schools is complex and controversial. Complex, because it has been established by more than one hundred twenty years of piecemeal legislation, and controversial because of the conflicts that arise from overlapping powers and responsibilities.*

Dr. George Muench, "County Board/County Superintendent: A Changing Relationship," *California School Boards Journal*. (March 1977)



A GUIDE TO SHARED GOVERNANCE FOR COUNTY  
BOARDS OF EDUCATION

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# THE TRUSTEE HANDBOOK

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# Chapter 3 – Working Together



## COUNTY BOARD

- ✓ Appellate Role for Districts
  - Interdistrict Transfers
  - Expulsion Appeals
  - Charter Appeals
- ✓ Purchasing, Leasing & Conveying Real Property
- ✓ Govern Court & County Community Schools
- ✓ Authorize and/or Govern Charter
- ✓ Set Superintendent 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 LCAPs
  - Approve District Budgets
- ✓ County Office Employer
- ✓ Provider of Regional Services
- ✓ Operate Court and County Community Schools
- ✓ Statewide System of Supports
- ✓ Prepare LCAP

# SHARED GOVERNANCE

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ACCBE believes, in order to jointly lead each county office of education successfully, both county boards and county superintendents should pursue the concept of “shared governance” characterized by shared authority, accountability, and responsibility, and (to the extent possible) an aligned vision. Only through a collaborative and shared governance process can both entities govern together effectively and seamlessly for the benefit of the students and families in their county.

# Shared Governance Examples

County Board	Shared Governance	County Superintendent
Approve COE LCAPs	<b>Student Outcomes</b>	Develop COE LCAPs Approve School District LCAPs
Approve	<b>COE Budget</b>	Develop
Establish	<b>Court &amp; Community Schools</b>	Operate
Authorize and Govern	<b>COE Charters (Dependent)</b>	Operate and Oversight
Authorize	<b>COE Charters (Independent)</b>	Oversight
Listen and Respond	<b>Community Engagement</b>	Listen and Respond
Confer and Align	<b>Advocacy</b>	Confer and Align

## Shared Governance – Board /Superintendent Partnership

- County Superintendent cannot share their statutory and regulatory duties and accountability with any other entity.
- They can work cooperatively with county boards to see that each supports the other in the performance of their duties.
- **Examples:**
- Superintendent supports the board with administrative and logistical support for its meetings and hearings and assistance in complying with conflict-of-interest laws and mandatory ethics training
- Board members have no authority to act except when functioning as a member of the board at a meeting held in accordance with law.
- The board supports the superintendent by providing the resources, including budget, necessary to hire and direct staff and provide services.
- **MORE REAL LIFE EXAMPLES TO BE SHARED MARCH 3!**



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# QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

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# ACCBE MENTORING PROGRAM

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- One on One mentoring by a seasoned Trustee
- Talk once or twice a month
- Your Mentor 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

# Group Coaching Time

## Open Forum

- What **burning questions**, concerns about being a trustee or the role of county boards do you have?
- Any **hot issue** you are dealing with now, or is looming?

Everyone is invited to give feedback!





# Next Steps

- Please **fill out our Survey** now - see chat for link
- Attend our next Starting Strong Event in our 4 part series: **March 3, April 7, and May 5.**
- **Sign up to be mentored- you can do this on the survey form or email [info@accbe.org](mailto:info@accbe.org)**
- Review the Handbook- [LINK](#)

# OPTIMISTIC CLOSE

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Shout out or in the chat

**“What is one takeaway from today that you can use to be an effective trustee?”**

# CONTACTS AND THANK YOU!

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