



# Meetinghouse Solutions

“Strong Boards, Strong Schools”

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## Top 10 Characteristics of a Highly Effective<sup>®</sup> Charter School Governing Board

by Marci Cornell-Feist



## **Top 10 Characteristics of a Highly Effective<sup>®</sup> 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.

