

The *Key Work of School Boards Guidebook* from the National School Board Association, identifies a set of “bedrock principles” and key areas of work for Boards of Education. The table below outlines the areas where we see the strongest connection to *Blueprint* components. As you review these principles and the connections to the *Blueprint*, indicate based on your context, which areas are most important for your board to understand.

Key Work of School Boards (2015)	<i>Blueprint</i> Connections
Effective school boards commit to a vision of high expectations for student achievement and quality instruction and define clear goals toward that vision.	Instructional Infrastructure (HQI Visions), Student Support Network Vision, Safety Net, Talent Management (Profiles for Leaders and Teachers), Sense of Urgency, Outer Ring/Foundation, Communications Driver System, Performance Management, Problem-Solving Driver System, Allocation of Resources, District Network
Effective boards make sure these goals remain their district’s top priorities and that nothing detracts from them.	Performance Management, Allocation of Resources, Leadership Network, Intense Student Support Network, Instructional Infrastructure, Talent Management, Problem-Solving Driver System, Communications Driver System, Outer Ring/Foundation, Sense of Urgency, District Network
Effective school boards have strong shared beliefs and values that meld the limitless possibilities for student learning with an unshakeable confidence in the district’s ability to teach all children at high levels.	Outer Ring/Foundation, Communications Driver System, Instructional Infrastructure (HQI Visions), Student Support Network Vision, Talent Management (Profiles for Leaders and Teachers)
Effective boards are accountability driven , spending less time on operational issues and more time focused on policies that improve student achievement. High-performing boards establish a clear and precise vision supported by policies that target student achievement.	Performance Management, Problem-Solving Driver System, Communications Driver System, Outer Ring/Foundation, Instructional Infrastructure (HQI Visions), Student Support Network Vision, Safety Net, Talent Management (Profiles for Leaders and Teachers), Instructional Leadership Routines
Effective school boards have a collaborative relationship with staff and the community and establish strong communications structures. Those efforts inform and engage both internal and external stakeholders in setting and achieving district goals.	Outer Ring/Foundation, Communications Driver System, Talent Management, Performance Management, Problem-Solving Driver System, Sense of Urgency
Effective boards are data savvy . They embrace and monitor data, even when the information is negative, and use it to drive continuous improvement.	Performance Management, Problem-Solving Driver System, Communications Driver System, Allocation of Resources, Sense of Urgency, District Network
Effective school boards align and sustain resources , including staff professional development, to meet district goals.	Allocation of Resources, Performance Management, Problem-Solving Driver System, Sense of Urgency, Instructional Infrastructure (HQI Visions), Student

	Support Network Vision, Safety Net, Talent Management (Profiles for Leaders and Teachers)
Effective boards and their superintendents lead as a united team , each from their respective roles, with strong collaboration and mutual trust.	Outer Ring/Foundation, Communications Driver System, Sense of Urgency, District Network, Talent Management
Effective school boards take part in team development and training , joining with the superintendent to build shared knowledge, values, and commitment for improvement efforts.	Outer Ring/Foundation, Sense of Urgency, Talent Management, District Network