THE TOP SHELF ON DEMAND
GOVERNANCE BY DESIGN
Charter school boards are responsible for providing oversight and support. They must ensure mission fulfillment, financial solvency, and operational effectiveness. Challenges at the board level often distract from success in these three areas.

The Top Shelf On Demand is a program that provides customized professional development sessions to help boards navigate challenges and ultimately deliver an excellent academic experience for students. Sessions are individually designed to meet the current realities and demands of a board.
OVERVIEW
The Top Shelf On Demand provides personalized solutions for charter school board members to respond to governance challenges.

PROCESS
On demand sessions are developed based on discussions between LAPCS and your school board. To discuss a Top Shelf On Demand session for your board, please contact Neil Ranu, Governance Director, at 504.274.3668 or via e-mail at nranu@lacharterschools.org.

COST
Training sessions are available as one-time workshops and extended training programs. Extended programs are intended to help boards realize their highest potential and include ongoing support over a three to six month period.

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<th>3 Hour</th>
<th>6 Hour</th>
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<tr>
<td>LAPCS Member</td>
<td>$800</td>
<td>$1450</td>
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<td>LAPCS Non-Member</td>
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If the session will be delivered more than 60 miles from the LAPCS office and requires an overnight stay, a travel subsidy in the amount of $150 will be added to the training fee.
ON DEMAND SESSION TOPICS

ACCOUNTABILITY

*Standardized Testing and the Board’s Responsibility*
How are charter schools held accountable for results? This session provides information about the standardized testing cycle and the board’s responsibility in assuring a seamless process through deliberate oversight.

*Increased Renewal Standards*
The Louisiana Department of Education created the Charter School Performance Compact for Type 2s, 4s and 5s as a way to be more transparent about how schools are held accountable. This session offers insights about the increased renewal standards and ways for boards to be proactive in this important process.

*Public Accountability and Open Meetings Law*
As public bodies receiving taxpayer dollars to operate, charter school boards are required to follow Open Meetings Law. This session covers the basics of Open Meetings Law and prepares board members with the knowledge necessary to ensure compliance with this important mandate.

*Understanding Louisiana Charter Law*
Understanding Louisiana’s charter school law is a necessity for board members to fulfill their obligations as public stewards. This presentation covers a brief history of charter schools in Louisiana; the various types of charter schools; the policies and laws that apply to charter schools; and foreseeable legal battles or issues board members should have on their radar.
LEADERSHIP & MANAGEMENT

**Board Basics**
Serving on a charter school board is immensely rewarding and challenging. This session explains the responsibilities and expectations for charter school board members.

**Board Building: Recruitment and Selection**
Board members are responsible for the identification, recruitment, selection and preparation of future board members. This session provides an overview of recruitment and selection strategies to ensure that the board has the right people in the right seats heading in the right direction.

**How Strong Boards Leverage Community Assets**
As schools of choice, charter schools have the potential to make community engagement a primary focus. This session focuses on best practices to galvanize community support and work in collaboration with stakeholders.

**The Role of the Board Chair**
Being an effective Board Chair requires knowledge, skill and finesse. This session will provide relevant tips for ensuring meetings are productive and impactful as a result of the chair’s laser focus on results and effective leadership. Chairing a meeting does not come naturally and herding cats may get tiring, but with these recommendations success is only a few meetings away.

**Succession Planning**
With the significant amount of talent moving from organization to organization, it is imperative that charter schools plan strategically for the future. Having a succession plan that accounts for leadership transitions ensures continuity. This session provides resources and a framework for schools beginning this important process.

**Fundraising 101**
It’s usually the case that a financial gap exists between a charter school’s budget and its aspirations. Making up the difference requires a skillful fundraising team (read: board members) and a robust development committee. This session offers a game plan for identifying potential donors, cultivating interest in the cause and raising funds to support the mission.
BOARD DYNAMICS

Facilitating Effective Board Meetings
Leading a meeting that yields results instead of a snooze fest hinges on preparation. What are the key ingredients for a productive board meeting? This session offers a checklist of the must-haves to create a productive board meeting from setting the agenda to concretizing action steps.

Building High-Performing Boards
Based on The Practitioner’s Guide to Governance as Leadership: Building High-Performing Nonprofit Boards by Cathy A. Trower, this session focuses on the Governance as Leadership model, the three governance modes, and implications for transforming the board’s operations and impact through this model.

CONTACT US
For more information regarding On Demand sessions or the Top Shelf program, contact Neil Ranu, Governance Director, at 504.274.3668 or nranu@lacharterschools.org.