



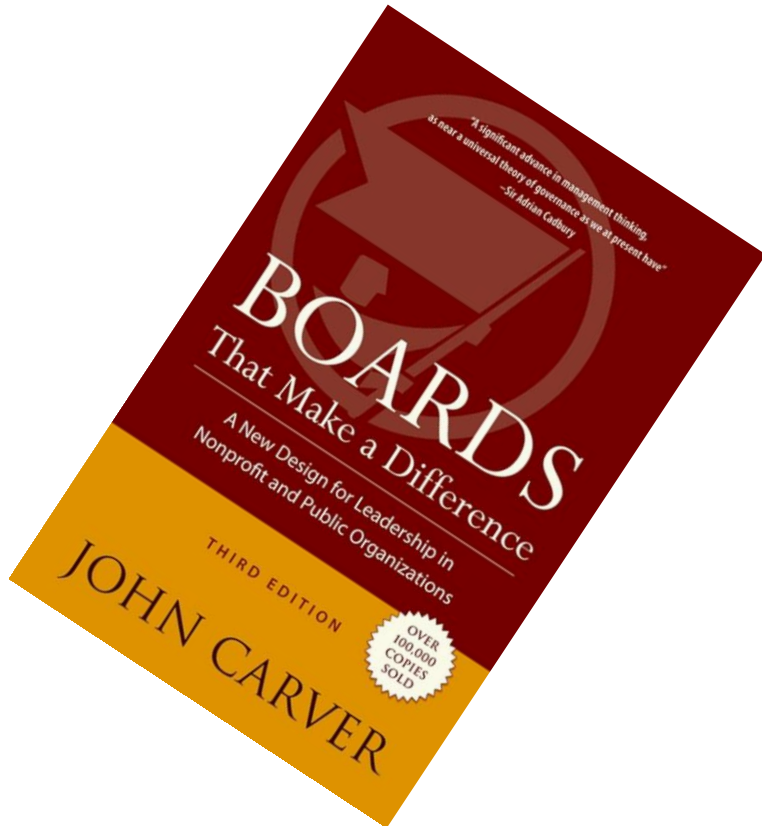
Colorado Association
of School Boards

2025 85th Annual CASB Convention | December 11-13 | The Broadmoor

#CASBEvents

Policy Governance

Policy Governance
2025 Annual CASB Convention
Saturday December 13, 2025
International Center North
The Broadmoor Hotel



Presenters



*Matt Cook – CASB Director of Public Policy and
Advocacy*

*Former member and Past President of the Aurora
Public Schools Board of Education*

Former member of the CASB Board of Directors

Past President of the CASB Board of Directors

11th year on the CASB staff

Certified in Policy Governance



Learning Outcomes for Today

- Overview of Policy Governance
- Questions from current PG Boards
- Interactive – PLEASE ask questions
- Let's have some FUN!



History of Policy Governance

John Carver – May 2, 1938 to
August 16, 2024

Developed Policy Policy
Governance in response to
what he felt were Boards
abdicating their Governance
Role to the Executive



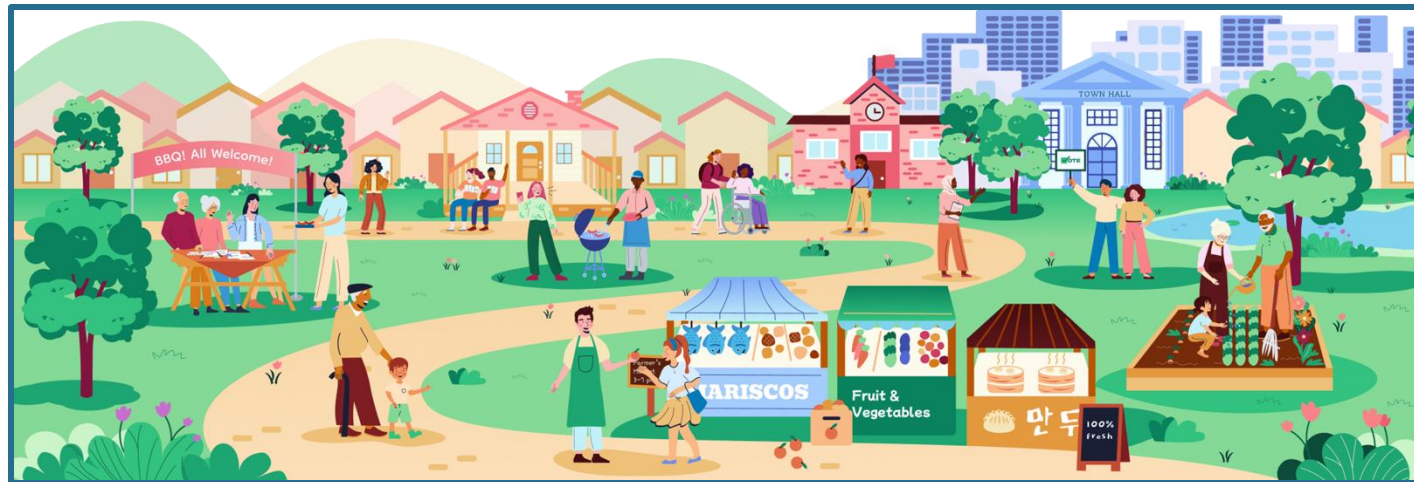
History of Policy Governance

In Colorado
approximately 40
Boards of Educaiton
use the Policy
Governance Model



The Board in Policy Governance

The Board Governs on behalf of voters who provide the Legal and Moral Authority to Govern the School District



Ten Principles of Policy Governance

1. The Ownership

1. Those who provide the legal and moral authority to Govern



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2. The Position of the Board

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1. What the Board wishes to be accomplished



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1. All the things the Board does not want to happen, even if it accomplished the Boards ENDS



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1. The Board should strive for the Broadest policy that accomplishes the Boards ENDS



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1. All of the things the Board specifically delegates to the Executive



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9. Reasonable Interpretation

6. A fair and sensible interpretation of the Boards Ends(Goals)



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10. Monitoring

1. Evidence that what the Board has asked to be accomplished is being accomplished



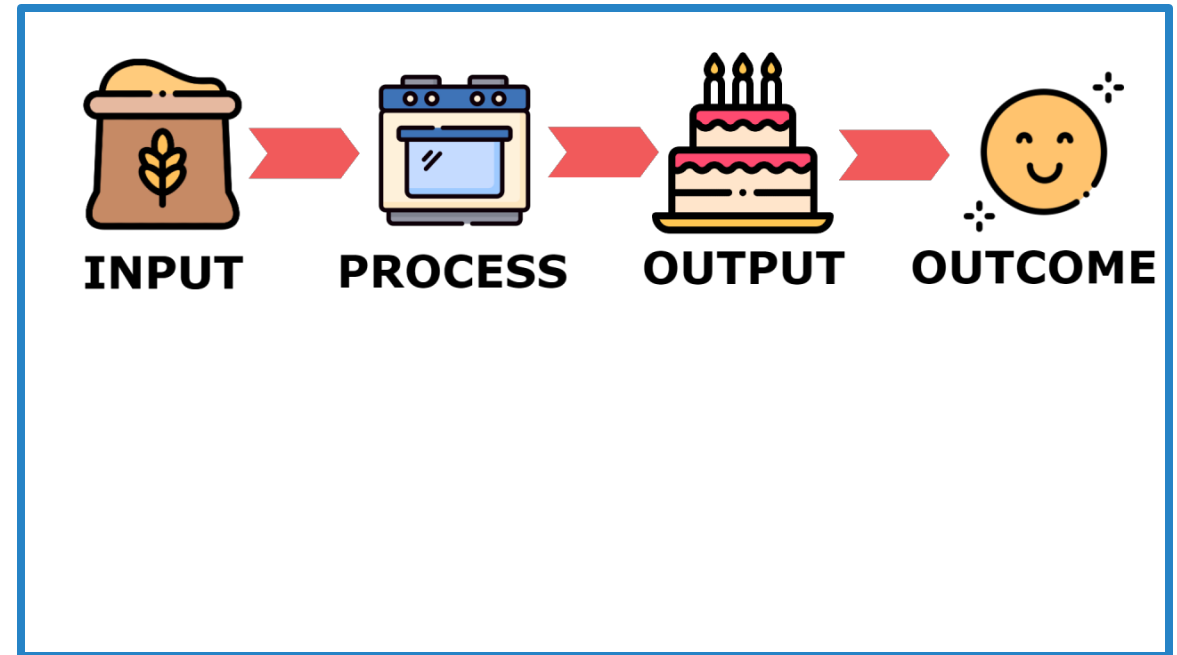
ENDS (GOALS)

- What the Board wishes to accomplish
- The Items the Board will use to evaluate the Superintendent
- Policy is written to achieve the ENDS(Goals)
 - What Results?
 - For what group of people?
 - At what cost?



Means

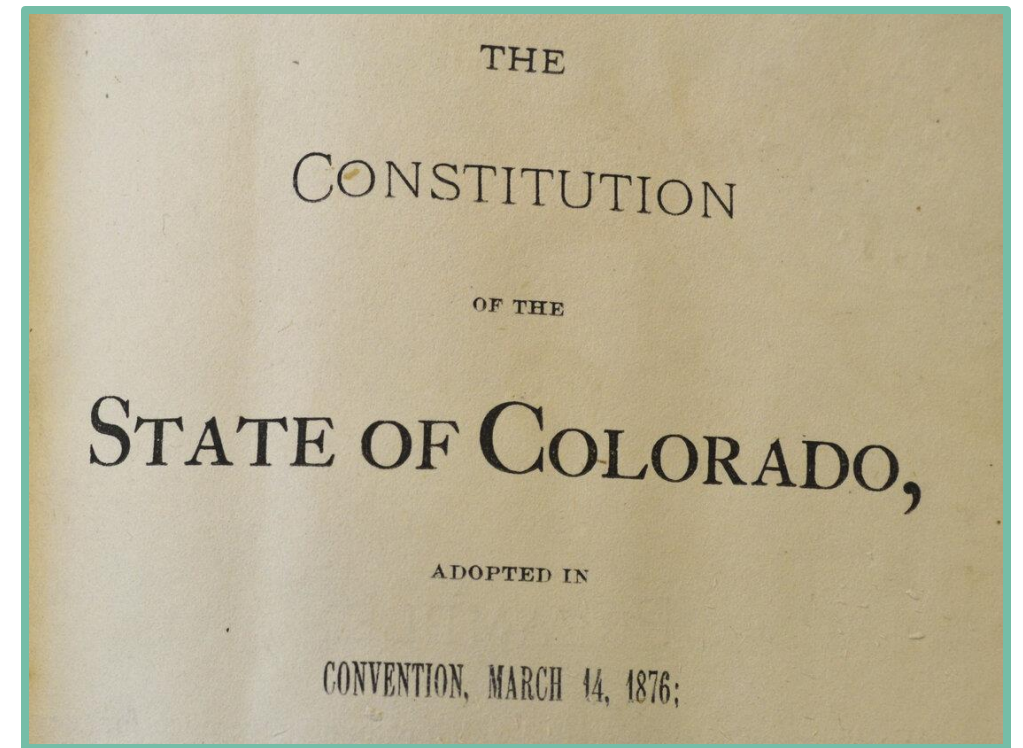
- How the organization achieves the Board's ENDS(Goals)
 - The Who
 - The When
 - The What
 - The Why
 - The How Much



The Role of the Board in Policy Governance

Article IX section 15:

“The general assembly shall, by law, provide for organization of school districts of convenient size, in each of which shall be established a board of education, to consist of three or more directors to be elected by the qualified electors of the district. Said directors shall have control of instruction in the public schools of their respective districts.”



The Board in the Policy Governance Model

Sets the ENDS (Goals)

- What Results?
- For What Group of People?
- At What Cost?

Monitors Progress of the ENDS
(Goals) being achieved

Evaluates the Superintendent
Fidelity and Accountability to
upholding the role of the Board



Role of the Superintendent in the Policy Governance Model

- Works to accomplish the Board's ENDS (Goals)
- Follows the Executive Limitations
- Reports to the Board on the progress of the Boards ENDS
- Keeps the Board informed and provides any and all information necessary for the Board to make a decision.
- Holds the Board Accountable to their work



Questions from the Group



Questions from the Group

What are ways/best practices to strengthen communication/information sharing amongst the board members?



Questions from the Group

Examples of policy monitoring reports for board and superintendent?



Questions from the Group

- **Interpretation**

- ensures clarity and prevents ambiguity in how broad board policies are applied.

- **Evidence**

- provides transparency and allows the board to make informed judgments rather

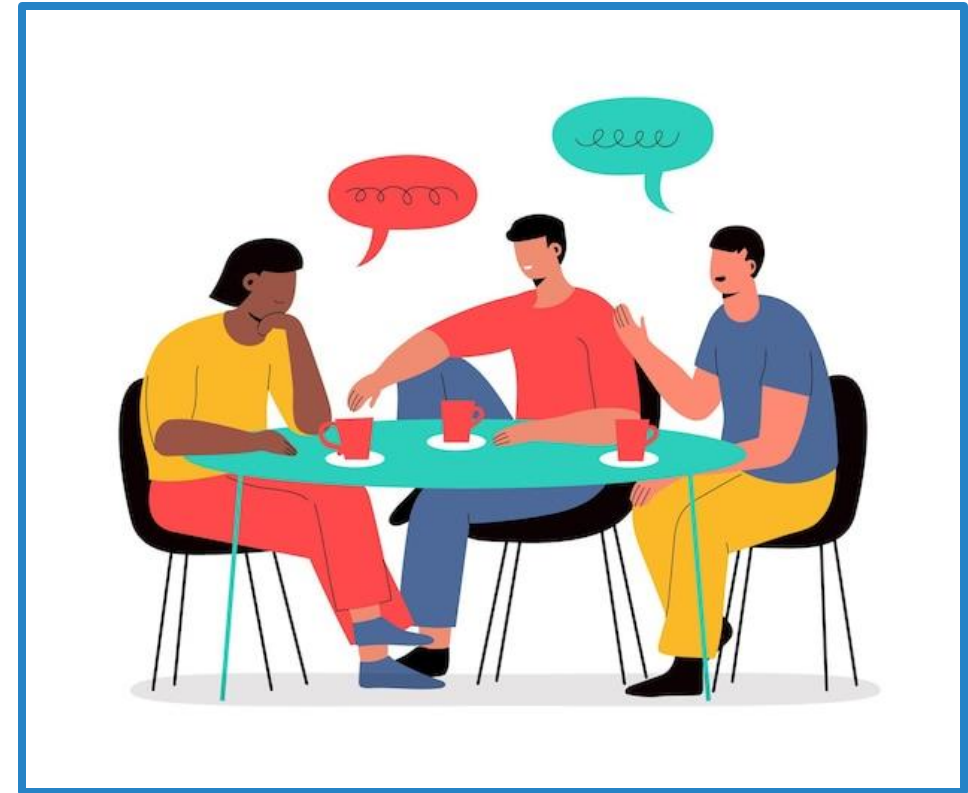
- **Statement of Compliance**

- normalizes accountability and makes it easy for the board to track progress or id



Table Talk

Share your experiences
What is successful?
What could be improved?
What areas could your Board
use some professional
development?
What resources from CASB
would be helpful?



Thank You

Your CASB staff is ready and willing to help
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