

School Board Training Workshop 2008

Which of the following topics would be of most helpful to your School Board as topics for meetings and/or training?

Topic	Number of Responses (out of 68)	Average "score" (1 = most helpful)
Marketing the School	36	2.4
Parent Volunteerism	35	2.6
Enrollment	31	2.9
Strategic Planning	30	2.5
Communicating w/School Community	30	3.3
Development	24	3.0
Alumni	22	3.3
Financial Planning/Mgmt	19	2.9
Annual Fund	15	2.9
Conflict Resolution	11	4.2
Meeting Management	10	3.2
Catholic Identity	10	2.8
Recruiting Board Members	10	3.5
Networking with other Boards	8	3.8
Role of the Board Chair	8	3.6
Other: How to address concerns of Cath. Schools Parents as partners... what mean Grant-writing Maintenance/Green	4	NA

Did you enjoy the workshop today?

Yes – 68

No - 0

Overall, what was helpful to you today?

Strategic planning training explanation and resources – great
 Great tips from communication training
 Sense of strategic planning and board roles
 Good speakers/moderators
 Ideas about planning
 The different ideas of other boards and presenters
 New member orientation
 The role of school board member
 Being with colleagues
 Strategic plan guidance – place to start
 Finding out about the finance manual
 Hearing what other schools do/handling things
 Alumni relations
 Meeting others
 Having an opportunity to hear what others schools are doing – I think there were a lot of interesting ideas floating around
 Finance and enrollment management info – both great
 I attended alumni and enrollment – valued both
 Information on new board member orientation
 Ideas on how to improve our strategic plan
 Ideas on how to create an enrollment/retention plan
 Exchange of ideas and concerns. Nice to see addition of green and enrollment topics
 The entire event
 What is not part of our job is as important as what is part of our goals and jobs.
 Strategic planning
 Networking with other board members
 Chatting with other schools' board members and principals, good presentation by finance panel
 Alumni session

The new board session
Attending marketing and communication workshops.
Sessions are very informative
New member orientation
To know that school board really does something
Just to know there are “mentors” to call to present, demonstrate, guide
Love the raffle!
The workshops were personal and informative
Seeing the commitment in the diocese to help all of our schools
Networking
Sessions well done and great topics
Hearing from other schools on what they do
The day was very helpful, organized and informative
Green school info, facilities
The facilities session was very good
Great to share from school to school
Alumni program presentation
The finance session was excellent
Knowing there is a support system/resource in place to help us. Solid marketing framework provided.
New board member orientation
New board member orientation; talking with other people; mentor invitation
Everything – sessions were informative and well presented
Sharing of information
Alumni relations
Presentation/discussion on enrollment
It helped me to review and prioritize for the coming year
Just having these workshops
Communications class
New board member workshop
Enrollment – well prepared
New school board session
Discovering new ideas and shared challenges
Alumni session was excellent
Alumni
The handouts for all sessions
Learned several things that can improve newsletter
Marketing and parent involvement
Marketing
More contact info for follow-up

What could be improved about the event?

Print names/titles of presenters on materials
More than two breakout sessions
More handouts
Preparation materials to address with members that may not be able to attend
Time between sessions
More resources available to bring back to board
Opportunity to attend more workshops
One more session
More in depth info on the other subjects, or advanced material for boards already involved in some of the topics.
Workshop more often – not just 1 time/year
Able to attend more sessions; possibly have more such workshops
Nothing
Perhaps more follow-up with individual board members. Sometimes it's better to check in with board members (especially newbies) rather than asking them to come forward with questions.
Less use of power point in sessions (poor retention/cuts interaction)
Get the word out sooner about the event
Fewer slides – more interaction
SPORG worked ok, but was very slow for registration, better if SPORG had a bit more event info
More opportunity to talk
If there is a topic such as enrollment that is everyone's responsibility, maybe that topic could be presented in a general session rather than a breakout session

Resource sheets/ideas from other schools – handout if appropriate
Nothing
Longer. Nice to get in three sessions and/or longer sessions. Unified format of handout materials.
Contact list for diocesan board members. Review of diocesan changes and initiatives would have been nice.
As a new board member, more introductory sessions would be helpful
Time for one more session?
More time to network at each breakout session
More opportunities to attend sessions – 2 wasn't enough!
I wish I could have gone to all workshops. Presentations are so informative. Thank you.
Having a central resource location – presentations that we couldn't attend. Also a location for resources like vendors, templates, ideas that worked and ideas that did not work, contacts of fellow board members
Resources available in handouts
Maybe on each brochure session, provide info of the speaker (name, phone, email) in case others may have additional questions
Introduction of speakers and other present – have all up front to introduce themselves briefly
The finance session should have focused ore on the school rather than the diocese

What about sessions was helpful?

Provided useful info, perspective, explanations, links to other resources
Marketing
Resources; summary sheets/outlines
Covered enrollment, admission, retention and registration
Discussion among attendees
Q&A
Alumni
Alumni gave me most information – how to cultivate relationships
Lots of ideas for planning
Suggestions as to what works; guidelines as to what we don't do as well as what we do
Very knowledgeable moderators
Peer discussion, resources mentioned, formats/templates for guidance
Planting the seeds of curiosity to where/how we accomplish our tasks
Specifics to implement
Best part was discussion with other board members
Other board members' ideas/experiences
The handouts
Questions and answers time
Sr. Barbara and Ms. Radecke were great!
Everything
Information was well plannd
The perspective and the applicable knowledge that was shared
Everything
Everything
Sharing
More time for discussion
Good expert advice from presenters
Answer questions
Wonderful
Hearing what others do
All about future planning!
Small, focused group discussions
Interacting with other board members
Clarification
New ideas
Interaction with other boards
All of the information was helpful. As a newcomer everything was helpful.
The instructor already knew what would be the most beneficial information to put into practice.
More time for more breakouts
Very knowledgeable speakers
Informed speakers
Discussion, interaction
All of it!

What could have been improved about sessions?

Maybe a little more time for group discussions, though the 8 – 12 time total was plenty
Better organization of agenda for finance – but good discussion
More electronic communication info
More examples, tools
Interactive participation
Communication handout – 2 pictures not readable; tell preparers to use larger type on power point
More time to share
Digital copy of presentation available
More time to interact
A few more take away samples
More discussion
More time for networking, Q&A
Handouts – more school examples
More handouts, references
Details and examples, discussion on urban vs. suburban challenges. Better (readable) handouts.
I would have liked to attend one or more sessions
Everything seemed well planned and thought out. Perhaps once I get more involved, I'll have more feedback.
Ability to attend more (3@45)
Perhaps a 3rd session by topic to share best practices
Not so rushed; facilities was done too quickly. Maybe make green schools/facilities separate topics
More detailed outline for enrollment – speakers talked a little fast with lots of info

Other comments?

Update your website with the basics of who the diocesan board members are
I appreciated the letter from Superintendent of Schools in our Wed. packet
Keep up the good presenters and the great handouts
A great 3 hour experience!
I would like to hear more from Sr. Barbara
Continue your excellent work – thank you!
Thank you!
Thank you!
Loved it. Thank you! It was good for all of us
Clerical presence would have been encouraging
Make green and facilities separate
Great format and facilitators!
This was great! I found both workshops to be extremely helpful and stimulating! Thank you!
How do we get the school boards to interact more? How do we get updated information on these topics from the diocesan school board?
Please send updates during the year. Didn't hear much all last year. Push your messages.
How about some time next year for the school boards to break out at the end of the session and discuss what they learned before they leave?
Thank you!
Excellent workshop! See you next year and thank you very much for the warm hospitality.
Add a session in grant writing
Good workshop – thank you!
Thank you for dedicating your time and energy to supporting us in our mission