

GVSU  
Charter Schools Office  
  
Distinguishing Dozen

“What every **Board Member** should know about their school”

**I. Why does this school exist?**

- What is our purpose? (mission statement)
- Are we doing what we said we would?
- Is mission understood/practiced by staff/by parents?

**II. What are our Student Achievement Goals?**

- Do these goals align with our needs?
- Does our data support these needs?

**III. How are we doing meeting our Student Achievement Goals?**

- What information do we have that appropriately demonstrates the success level of our Student Achievement Goals?
- As we review the data, what are our strengths and weaknesses?
- What plans do we have to address these results?

**IV. What are our Organizational Goals?**

(Organizational Goals are goals that once achieved, allow the organization to achieve Student Achievement Goals or provide support for the Student Achievement Goals)

- Does the data support the need for these goals?

## **V. How are we doing in meeting our Organization Goals?**

- What information do we have that appropriately demonstrates the success level of our Organizational Goals?
- As we review the data, what are our strengths and weaknesses?
- What plans do we have to address these results?

## **VI. Where does our school stand in meeting Federal (NCLB) and State (Ed Yes) requirements?**

- Do you understand what these requirements/consequences are?
- (AYP/Highly Qualified teachers)
- What action plans are necessary for your compliance?

## **VII. Are we in compliance with our...**

- Own bylaws and policies?
- Authorizer contract?
- State law?
- Federal law? (status/updates are available on GVSU Board Portal [www.gvsu.intranets.com](http://www.gvsu.intranets.com))
- What are our plans to alter/address concerns?

## **VIII. What do our students think about coming to our school?**

- Do they think school is safe and orderly?
- Do they believe the teachers are doing their jobs well?
- Do they have the courses/curricular opportunities they need for the futures they plan?
- Would they recommend our school to others?

## **IX. What do parents/guardians of the students think of our school?**

- Do they think the school is safe and orderly?
- Do they believe the teachers are doing their jobs well?
- Do they approve of the school's stated goals and curriculum?
- Do they like the information available and opportunities to be a part of their children's education?
- Would they recommend our school to others?
- What does the Intermediate School District and Authorizer think of our school?

**X. Where do we stand financially and we are we, as the governing board, satisfied with our cost for the benefit and value added we receive?**

- How many dollars are spent per student?
- What are our annual building costs?
- How much money is spent on curriculum/instruction?
- Do we have a Fund Balance?
- What are long term financial obligations?
- What are the management company costs (if applicable)?
- Are we getting what we are paying for? (Bang for our Buck)

**XI. Do we approve of the current school improvement plan?**

This plan should include (PA 25 Requirements):

- Student and organizational goals
- Reporting system for all measures identified for measuring
- Performance information
- Professional development plan for all staff and what is the timeline for ongoing implementation and assessment of each?
- What interventions are necessary for the plan to be successful?

**XII. Based on what we now know, what should we do next?**

- Are we truly meeting our mission and are we truly leaving *No Child Left Behind*?