

# **Monitoring Report**

**Policy Title: 2.8 Communication and Support to the  
Board**

**Patrick J. Reen, Superintendent**

**March 27, 2018**

I hereby present my monitoring report on your Executive Limitations policy **2.8 Communication and Support to the Board** according to the schedule set out. I certify the information contained in this report is true, and represents compliance with a reasonable interpretation of all aspects of the policy unless specifically stated otherwise.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ (Superintendent)      Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**The Superintendent shall not permit the Board to be uninformed or unsupported in its work.**

**Superintendent’s Interpretation:**

The Superintendent defines “uninformed” as not being provided sufficient information to be able to respond to public inquiry or monitor the Superintendent’s implementation of Board Ends and Executive Limitations policies. “Unsupported” means not being provided material or financial resources needed for the Board to adhere to Board-Management Delegation and Governance Process policies.

**Evidence:**

*Communications From The Superintendent*

The Superintendent has provided information to boards in the form of memos, email communication, hard copy documents and electronic presentations. In addition, the Superintendent has communicated directly with board and committee chairs to assist them in their work.

*Board Trainings*

The Superintendent organized and attended two VSBA sponsored trainings with board members. One on budget development on September 26 and one on August 22 covering a range of topics. In addition, the Superintendent has attended several Policy & Governance Committee meetings with board members and our Policy Governance consultant.

**Summary:**

I report compliance.

**Further, without limiting the scope of the foregoing by this enumeration, the Superintendent shall not:**

- 1. Neglect to submit monitoring data required by the Board (see policy 3.4 on**

**monitoring Superintendent performance) in a timely, accurate, and understandable fashion, directly addressing the provisions of Board policies being monitored.**

**Superintendent’s Interpretation:**

The Superintendent defines “timely” as according to the approved Board work plan; “accurate” as without error; “understandable fashion” as with clarity. The Superintendent shall submit all monitoring reports according to the approved Board work plan with reasonable allowance for emergencies and unforeseen circumstances. Further, all data and information will be presented to the Board without error.

**Evidence:**

*Interpretations of Policies*

To date the Superintendent has shared interpretations of policies with local boards, the Executive Committee of the ANESU Board and the MAUSD Board as scheduled in the approved All Board Work Plan 2017-2018. All interpretations presented to date have been deemed reasonable indicating they provide sufficient clarity.

*Monitoring Reports*

In the 2017-2018 academic year monitoring reports for policies C1.1, C1.2, C1.3, C2.5 and C2.6 have been provided according to the approved All Board Work Plan. Each monitoring report has been accepted by the Executive Committee.

**Summary:**

I report compliance.

- 2. Fail to report in a timely manner any actual or anticipated noncompliance with any policy of the Board**

**Superintendent’s Interpretation:**

The Superintendent defines “timely” as before the Board is approached by the community. The Superintendent must truthfully and without error alert the Board in a timely manner to any condition of current noncompliance or condition of noncompliance considered likely in the future.

**Evidence:**

*Monitoring Report 2.4 Financial Planning and Budgeting*

Monitoring report 2.4 identifies specific areas where only partial compliance is reported with information about what is being done to achieve full compliance.

Draft Interpretation 2.7 Compensation and Benefits

At the 2/8/18 Policy and Governance Committee meeting the Superintendent provided a draft interpretation for policy 2.7. During discussion of the interpretation the Superintendent indicated he would need to report noncompliance on the monitoring report for this policy due to the fact that the policy does not allow for multi-year agreements with vendors, contracted workers or employees. The Superintendent indicated that, for a variety of reasons there are circumstances where multi-year contracts are needed for services such as bussing, snow plowing etc.

**Summary:**

I report compliance.

**3. Neglect to submit unbiased decision information required periodically by the Board or let the Board be unaware of relevant trends.**

**Superintendent's Interpretation:**

The Superintendent defines “unbiased” as without subjective qualities; “periodically” as upon request by the Board or as deemed necessary by the Superintendent; “relevant trends” as local, regional, national or international shifts in common or preferred education, finance or legal practices. The Superintendent shall periodically provide information, data, and evidence of trends necessary for the Board to make informed decisions.

**Evidence:**

FY 19 Budget Presentation

The Superintendent provided the MAUSD Board with unbiased information regarding the development of the FY 19 budget. Information in this report included estimated tax implications, current spending, projected spending, enrollment information, class size data and more. The presentation included information about a plan to build systems of support reflective of current educational trends including Instructional Coaching.

Ends Monitoring Report

The Superintendent provided all boards with unbiased information regarding student performance data in the Ends Monitoring Report. The newly revised interpretation reflected current educational trends.

**Summary:**

I report compliance.

- 4. Let the Board be unaware of any significant incidental information it requires, including anticipated media coverage, threatened or pending lawsuits, and material internal and external changes.**

**Superintendent’s Interpretation:**

The Superintendent defines “significant incidental information” as information related to events of importance to the Board; “media” as television, newspaper (print or digital) or radio; “material” as of importance to the Board. The Superintendent shall provide the Board with information to help ensure the Board is made aware of events directly from the Superintendent or designee before hearing it through the media.

**Evidence:**

*Litigation Communication From The Superintendent*

The Superintendent has made board members aware of progress being made relative to current and pending lawsuits.

*Media Communication From the Superintendent*

The Superintendent communicated with the Mt. Abraham Board Chair regarding media coverage surrounding the Mt. Abraham bond vote. In addition, the Superintendent communicated with the MAUSD Board Chair regarding media coverage surrounding the FY19 MAUSD Budget.

**Summary:**

I report compliance.

- 5. Fail to advise the Board if, in the Superintendent's opinion, the Board is not in compliance with its own policies on Governance Process and Board-Management Delegation, particularly in the case of Board behavior that is detrimental to the work relationship between the Board and the Superintendent.**

**Superintendent’s Interpretation:**

The Superintendent defines “detrimental” as causing damage to. The Superintendent has the responsibility to bring matters to the Board’s attention that, in his opinion, indicates Board behavior that is out of compliance with Board policies. If an individual matter or the infraction is of the entire Board, it shall be brought to the attention of the Board Chair. If the infraction involves a Board chair the chair of the Supervisory Union Board shall be notified.

**Evidence:**

*Communication With Board Chairs*

The Superintendent has communicated with various Board Chairs about board and board member behavior that is out of compliance with board policies. Most notably, the Superintendent has worked closely with the ANESU Board Chair to identify ways in which he can support the progress boards are making toward operating in a Policy Governance model.

**Summary:**

I report compliance.

- 6. Present information in unnecessarily complex or lengthy form or in a form that fails to differentiate among information of three types: monitoring, decision preparation, and other.**

**Superintendent's Interpretation:**

The Superintendent defines “unnecessarily complex” as confusing. The Superintendent shall submit all written and verbal reports/information in a manner which is short, concise and to the point, distinguishing between reports to be used for discussion, take action or receive updates.

**Evidence:**

**Agenda Format**

The Superintendent has created and refined board agenda templates to provide increased clarity and connection to the Policy Governance model. Items on these agendas are identified as discussion, action or update. This work is ongoing.

**Interpretations for Policies C2.5 and C2.6**

The Superintendent provided interpretations to policies C2.5 and C2.6 that were deemed reasonable by the Executive Committee of the ANESU Board indicating they were clear and concise.

**Bond Presentations**

The Superintendent has presented information regarding the bond to the Mt. Abraham Board on multiple occasions, as well as multiple presentations to the greater community. The presentations were organized, clear and concise.

**Budget Presentations**

The Superintendent has presented information about several budget proposals on multiple occasions the MAUSD Board as well as the community. The presentations were organized, clear and concise.

**Summary:**

I report compliance.

**7. Fail to provide a workable mechanism for official Board communications.**

**Superintendent's Interpretation:**

The Superintendent defines “workable mechanism” as a reliable tool; “official Board communications” as agendas and supporting documents, warnings, sharing of logistical details. The Superintendent shall provide access to the internet, the ANESU website, ANESU Facebook page and Google tools to communicate effectively among Board members, Board committees, the community, staff, and the Superintendent.

**Evidence:**

*Google Accounts for Board Members*

All board members in ANESU have Google accounts which provide access to email as well as a host of other applications relevant and practical for work required of a board member.

*ANESU Media*

Board postings are routinely placed on either the ANESU website, the ANESU Facebook page or both.

*Warnings*

Meetings are routinely warned in an appropriate manner and within the timelines allowed by law.

**Summary:**

I report compliance.

**8. Fail, when addressing official business, to deal with the Board as a whole.**

**Superintendent's Interpretation:**

The Superintendent defines “official business” as the work of the Board. The Superintendent shall redirect requests or direction from individual Board members back to the Board as a whole for consideration.

**Evidence:**

*Board Meetings*

On multiple occasions the Superintendent has redirected requests of individual board members back to the board as a whole for a motion and vote.

**Summary:**

I report compliance.

- 9. Fail to supply for the Board’s consent agenda, along with applicable monitoring information, all decisions delegated to the Superintendent yet required by law, regulation, or contract to be Board-approved.**

**Superintendent’s Interpretation:**

The Superintendent defines “applicable monitoring information” as information necessary for the Board to make informed decisions on consent agenda items. The Superintendent shall advise and include consent agenda items that fulfill the Board’s legal, contractual and regulatory responsibilities.

**Evidence:**

*Consent Agenda on Meeting Agendas*

Each board agenda includes a consent agenda for all decisions delegated to the Superintendent yet required by law, regulation, or contract to be board-approved.

**Summary:**

I report compliance.

Attachments: [2017-2018 Board Work Plan](#), [Draft Interpretation for 2.7](#), [8/22/17 Retreat Agenda](#), [9/26/17 MAUSD Agenda](#), Monitoring Report Signature Pages for [Ends Report](#), [2.4](#), [2.5](#), [FY19 Budget Presentation](#), [Bond Presentation](#).