



# The President as Leader

*Setting Sail for a Great Year and  
How to Avoid the Pirates*



**Dr. Randall Royer – Leadership Development Director  
ASSOCIATED SCHOOL BOARDS OF SOUTH DAKOTA**



## *The President as Leader*

***“If your actions inspire others to  
dream more,  
learn more, do more,  
and become more,  
you are a leader.”***

**- John Quincy Adams**



# Who are you as a Leader?

- **List 5 words that describe you as a “Leader”.**
- **List 5 words that others might use to describe you as a “Leader”.**



# *The President as Leader*

- **Are you . . .**
  - Honest?
  - Trustworthy?
  - Genuine?
  - Credible?
- **Do you have . . .**
  - Integrity?
  - Character?



# *The President as Leader*

- **Are you . . .**
  - Competent?
  - Consistent?
  - Committed?
- **Do you have . . .**
  - Confidence?
  - Clarity?



# The President as Leader

- **Do you have . . .**
  - Enthusiasm?
  - Energy?
  - Drive?
  - Passion?
  - Ambition?
  - Endurance?
  - Persistence?



# *The President as Leader*

- **Are you . . .**
  - Courageous?
  - Daring?
  - Fearless?
  - Proactive?
  - Decisive?



# *The President as Leader*

- **Do you have . . .**
  - Knowledge?
  - Intelligence?
  - Experience?
  - Education?
  - Skills?





# *The President as Leader*

- **Are you . . .**
  - Imaginative?
  - Creative?
  - Flexible?
  - Adaptable?
  - Resourceful?



# *The President as Leader*

- **Do you have . . .**
  - Vision?
  - Values?
  - Intuition?
  - Beliefs?
  - a Mission?



# *The President as Leader*

- **Are you . . .**
  - Fair-minded?
  - Open-minded?
  - Broad-minded?
  - Empathetic?
  - Respectful?
  - Supportive?
  - Compassionate?



# *The President as Leader*

- **Do you . . .**

- **Communicate?**

- **Listen?**



## *Positions and Duties on Board a Pirate Ship:*

- **Captain**: a pirate captain was voted on by the crew and his authority was only absolute in the heat of battle or when giving chase.
- **Navigator**: Trained navigators could use the stars to figure out their latitude, and therefore could sail from east to west fairly easily, but figuring out longitude was much harder and involved a lot of guesswork.



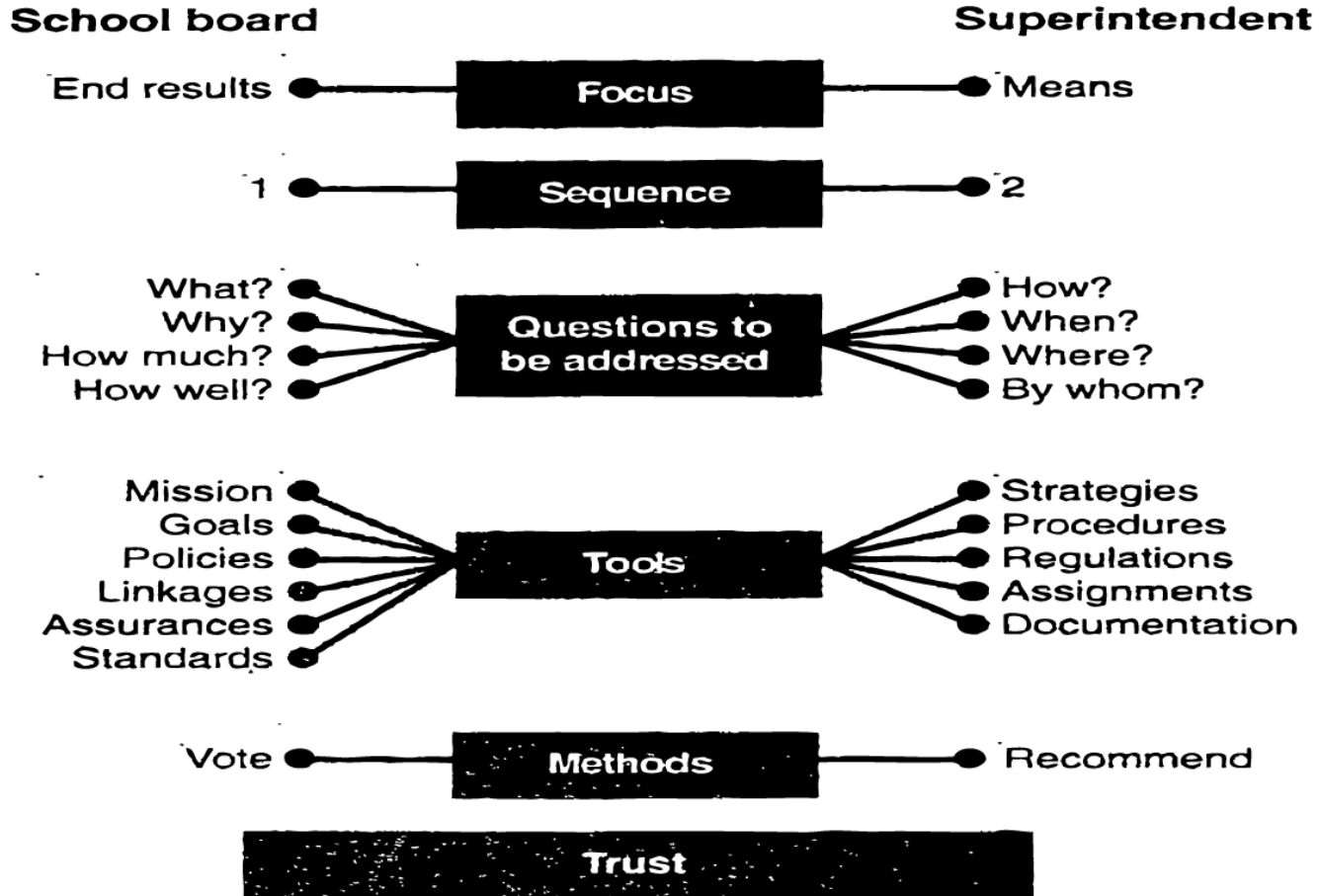
*Which are you as President?*

# Captain or Navigator?

*Discuss and report back.*



# *Captain or Navigator?*





# Teamwork/Partnerships

***“Effective school boards lead as a united team with the superintendent, each from their respective roles, with strong collaboration and mutual trust.”***

**- Center for Public Education**





# Role of the Board President

- Execute the will of the board.
  - Provide leadership to the board.
  - Develop a vision for the board.
  - Be the communicator or spokesperson for the board.
  - Manage the effective use of meetings.
  - Provide a liaison with the superintendent.
- Partnership!*



# The Board President must be a . . .

**good leader.**

**navigator.**

**planner.**

**organizer.**

**listener.**

**communicator.**

**interpreter.**

**confidant.**

**liaison.**

**conscience.**

**caretaker.**

**troubleshooter.**



# Tips for Board Presidents

- 1. Know your Board members.**
- 2. Collective knowledge of the Board is superior to that of an individual.**
- 3. Establish a tone of cooperative leadership (*benevolent dictator*).**
- 4. Firmly take charge of Board meetings.**
- 5. Include each Board member in the decision-making process.**



# Tips for Board Presidents

- 6. LISTEN. LISTEN. LISTEN.**
- 7. Make sure Board members know you can be trusted.**
- 8. Prepare for meetings.**
- 9. Plan for Board development.**
- 10. Build the Board/Superintendent relationship.**
- 11. Stay cool, even if under attack.**



# *Ways to Lead your Board to be More Effective*

- **Use a consent agenda (efficiency).**
- **Follow Open Meeting Laws.**
- **Celebrate students' achievements at each meeting.**
- **Allow the public to be heard first, but not during Board discussions (control).**
- **Conduct an annual self-evaluation.**



# 11 Leadership Lessons From Jazz Musicians

1. Playing it safe gets you tossed off the stage.
2. There are no do-overs in live performances.
3. Listening to those around you is three times more important than what you play yourself.
4. There's a time to stand out as a soloist and a time to support others and make them shine.
5. Expect surprises and adversity, since jazz (and life) is about how you respond and adapt.



# 11 Leadership Lessons From Jazz Musicians

6. Know your audience.
7. It's always better leaving people wanting more, rather than less.
8. The best leaders are those that make others sound good.
9. Pattern recognition is easier than raw genius.
10. Shy musicians are starving artists.
11. Keeping it new and fresh is mandatory.



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