

OUSD Board Retreat 8/4/2026 11:00am-3:00pm

Goals

- ★ Strengthen connection to one another and to our shared purpose as a board
 - Engage in generative dialogue, build shared understanding, and learn together as a governance team
 - Ground our work in the research-based traits of effective school boards
 - Develop a tiered set of Board priorities for 2026–27, with clear focus areas for the year ahead

This retreat is designed to **strengthen the OUSD Board's ability** to fulfill its oversight responsibilities to the District. The focus is on **process**, *how directors work and learn together*, so the Board can make the best possible decisions on behalf of students, families, and the community this year.

Please note: portions of this agenda focus on building relationships between directors and developing shared knowledge of effective board practices.

Agenda

Opening Moves/Welcome/Grounding

Agreements: Board Member Engagement Expectations

1. Every action by a Board Member should be directed toward improving the educational program for students.
2. Every Board Member will exhibit behavior that is honorable, honest, and dedicated to the success of the students and staff of the district.
3. Each Board Member is to be treated with dignity and respect.
4. Board Member Commitment will include:
 - Participate fully in the discussion of issues
 - Listen respectfully to all views and opinions
 - Respect each individual's opinion
 - Accept the majority action of the Board

Strengthen connection to one another and to our shared purpose as a board

How do my identities and life experiences shape my contributions to this Board?

Lunch break

Grounding our work in the research -based traits of effective school boards

Text based discussion: [Eight Traits of Effective Schools Boards, NSBA](#)

What are we up to, and how are we up to it? What is this producing - for me as an individual? For us as a collective? For the organization and the students we're here to serve?

Explore what might become possible if we interrupt and shift some of our ways of being.

Considering our Work Plan: An approach to managing the Board's collective work this year

Generative conversation to make meaning together

Major board responsibilities for 2026-27

Benefits and tradeoffs to various approaches (whole board, committee, etc.)

Prioritization

Closing Moves & Feedback