

**Part I - Board Governance** – The authorizer regularly monitors the performance quality of the school board based on authorizer observations; interviews with the director, board and faculty; and the review of school policies, reports and board meeting minutes. A school must have a governance model that provides quality oversight by ensuring that there are checks and balances between the board and the school administrators.

The VOA-MN Charter School Authorizing Program publishes annually a School Board Governance Report on their network of authorized charter schools. The purpose of the report is to be a single annual source on the board operations and compliance of the fifteen VOA-MN- authorized charter schools. Authorizer VOA-MN also observes a minimum of one school board meeting annually.

The VOA-MN determined school board governance standards contained below are uniform for all VOA-MN charter schools. The standards are contained in VOA-MN Charter Contract Addendum B (School Accountability and Authorizer Oversight System) and serve as the basis for both annual authorizer monitoring of school board performance and contract renewal determinations. The authorizer will monitor school performance meeting these standards on an ongoing basis and the standards shall be evaluated in the annual VOA-MN Network Governance Report. The standards also serve as the criteria for contract renewal determinations. The authorizer reserves the right to have flexibility to reasonably amend these standards /expectations as needed.

VOA-MN's school board governance standards / expectations include the following:

1. The Board of Directors met its governance model requirements laid out in its bylaws and membership requirements as required by Minnesota Statute\*.
2. The Board of Directors has the necessary knowledge to carry out the responsibilities contained in Minn Stat 124E.07, Subd. 6. (Duties), including knowledge in finance/budget, policy/legal, personnel/employment, and education.
3. The board adheres to an orientation process for bringing on new members.
4. The Board of Directors complies with initial and ongoing training requirements set forth in Minn. Stat 124E.07, Subd 7 (Training): governance, financial, and employment policies and practices.
5. The Board of Directors completes a self-evaluation each year.
6. The Board of Directors will comply with MN Open Meeting Law, Chapter 13D, and maintains a quorum for all board meetings.
7. The board regularly reviews, updates, and approves its bylaws. The bylaws are consistent with state law.
8. The Board of Directors adheres to board member election requirements set forth by state statute\*.
9. The Board conducts an annual evaluation (including all aspects of the position description) of the performance of the school leader through a defined annual evaluation process.
10. The Board has a board-approved professional development plan for the school director (if applicable as required by Minn. Stat. 124E.12, Subd. 2\*.
11. The Board of Directors monitors the organization's adherence to school board policies.
12. The Board of Directors complies with Federal data practices law and the Minnesota Data Practices Act (Minn. Stat. Chapter 13)\*.

13. The Board of Directors provides ongoing oversight of school academic performance.
14. The school maintains a high level of parent, teacher and student satisfaction rates based on school conducted surveys and student/faculty retention rates.
15. Board documents are distributed to all board members at least 3 days prior to a board meeting.
16. The Board of Directors maintains a Board Documents Binder which includes meeting minutes, bylaws and articles of incorporation and financial statements; and statutory requirements for posting board related information on the school's website\*.
17. The board has a policy review calendar and reviews and updates its policies as needed or required by state law.

**The following list of VOA-MN schools were determined to have met all of the VOA-MN Board Governance standards from July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020, although several schools just missed getting the award because of missing one or two standards.**

#### **VOA-MN SCHOOL**

ATHLOS LEADERSHIP ACADEMY  
HARBOR CITY INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL  
KALEIDOSCOPE CHARTER SCHOOL  
SPECTRUM JR AND SR HIGH  
TREKNORTH JR. & SR. HIGH