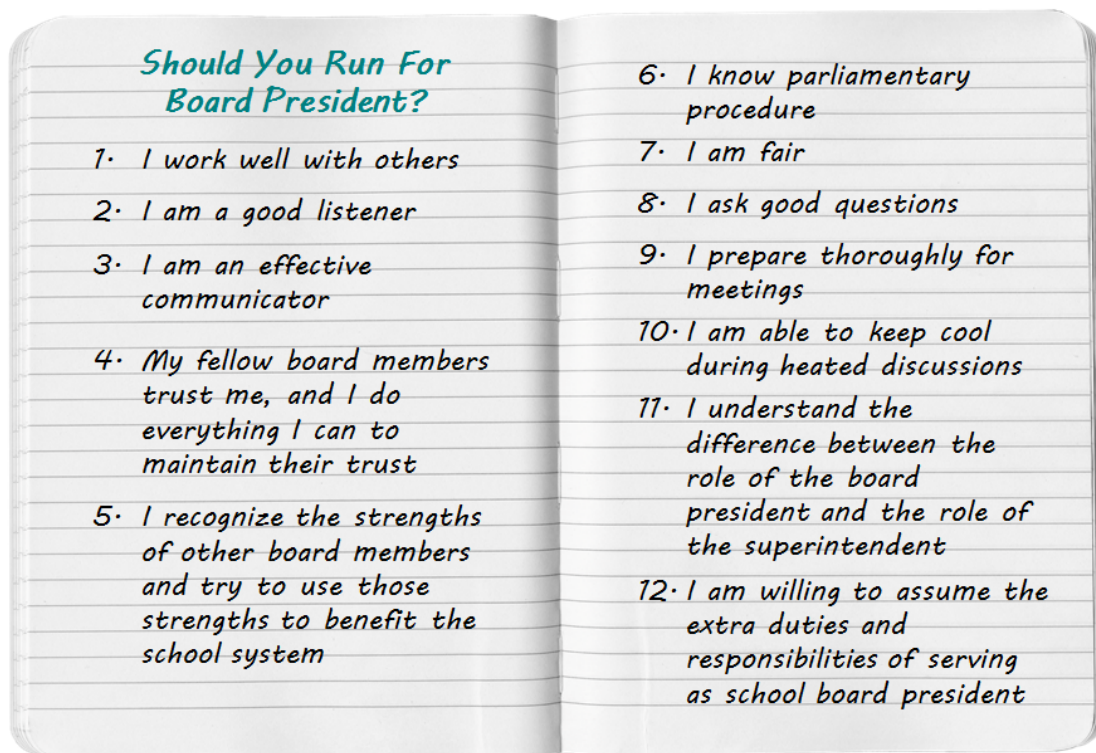


## ROLE OF THE BOARD PRESIDENT

The board president is elected by the board at the organizational meeting in January following an election (or annually depending on your policy and practice). In Arizona the board president participates in discussions and votes in every decision just like other board members. The primary reason for having a board president is to have someone who has the authority to run the board meeting. By policy, many boards assign these additional responsibilities to the board president: (check your policy manual for duties assigned):

- To consult with the superintendent on the development of the agenda
- To serve as the spokesperson for the board with the media.

Often the president is perceived as having more power or access to more information than other board members. Board presidents should work to ensure that all board members receive the same information and that all board members are treated respectfully and fairly at the board table. Running a board meeting can be a difficult job and not all board members want this additional responsibility.



For each of the above, give yourself a rating from 1 to 5, with 1 being excellent, 3 being average and 5 being poor. A score of 12 means you're the perfect board president; realistically, anything under 15 is a good indicator you should throw your hat in the ring.

*From the National School Boards Association book "Becoming a Better Board Member: A Guide to Effective School Board Service," Third Edition, 2006, Alexandria, VA*

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