

CHARACTERISTICS OF AN EFFECTIVE BOARD MEMBER

While most special district boards are comprised of individuals from different backgrounds and experiences, individual special district board members can be more effective when they exhibit:

- A thoughtful, sincere and deliberate approach to the position.
- Understanding of the issues, knowing that their decisions have a tremendous impact on the community.
- A constructive attitude toward teamwork.
- Understanding that they have no legal authority as an individual board member.
- The willingness to spend the time necessary to be well-informed on issues.
- The ability to represent the entire community and not surrender to special interest groups or partisan political groups.
- The temperament to respond accordingly and appropriately through challenging events remembering that public actions and words of members of the board will impact the district, its image and integrity.
- The willingness to listen respectfully to the opinions and concerns of colleagues and constituents.
- The willingness to express one's own opinion and participate in discussions openly and honestly.
- Encouragement and respect for the free expression of opinion by colleagues.
- The maturity to respect the confidentiality of privileged information, taking no private action that would compromise the board or staff.
- The willingness to model continuous learning, taking advantage of professional development opportunities.
- The willingness to abide by and support the board adopted operating procedures.