

Board Self-Assessment Tips

Do:

- Set the expectation that continuous evaluation and feedback are part of the Board's culture.
- Allow time at a board meeting to discuss why this activity is important and encourage questions.
- Encourage everyone to participate in the survey.
- Ensure confidentiality for all involved.
- Schedule a time at the board meeting to discuss the results and draw conclusions.
- Draw up action steps based on the findings.

Don't:

- Under-sell the value of the process and what you will learn.
- Try to wedge the discussion of the results into a too-short time frame at a board meeting. Allow at least 45 minutes to an hour to have a rich conversation. Better yet, use it as the springboard for your next board retreat.
- Postpone the deadline over and over waiting for a 100% response rate, once there is a majority, end the survey.
- Select a survey that feels too complex for your organization's culture.