

GSBA Survey on Recommendations from the Commission for School Board Excellence Report

December 5, 2008

GSBA conducted a survey to obtain local board's positions concerning the Commission for School Board Excellence recommendations pending before the Georgia Board of Education on school board governance. The survey responses are based on each full board's position. The following provides the survey instrument and our members' responses.

Survey responses were received from 147 out of 180 Boards of Education (82% Response)

1. In the event that a school district repeatedly fails to meet state defined student and/or board performance expectations, do you feel it is appropriate for the State to take temporary control of the local school district through a receivership authority?



2. Do you agree with the need to establish a state-wide code of ethics and conflict of interest guidelines for school board members?



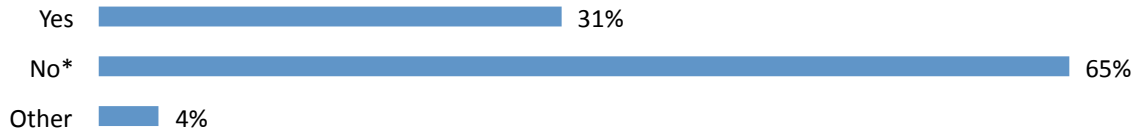
*Should be addressed at the local level

3. Do you agree that board member compensation should be defined by the State at per diem payments, equal to that of the State Board of Education, and reimbursement for reasonable out-of-pocket expenses?



*Should be addressed at the local level

4. Should the State require boards to develop and to maintain a strategic plan and a process of ongoing, timely review of student and financial performance results and outcomes compared to plan, and timely reporting of results to the community?



*Should be addressed at the local level

5. Should the State require boards to have a plan for regular community communications and stakeholder input for the purpose of presenting and discussing student and system planning, goals and performance?



*Should be addressed at the local level

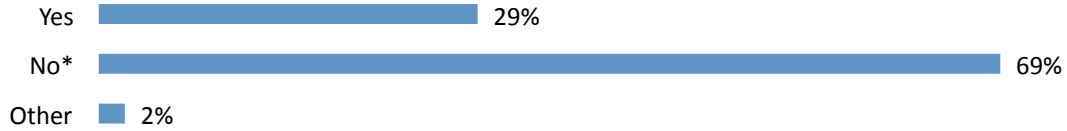
6. Should the State increase the number of training hours required for individual school board members?



7. Should the State require "whole" board training in addition to individual board training?



8. Should the State restrict the size of a school board to a minimum of five and maximum of seven board members?



*Should be addressed at the local level

9. Should the State require non-partisan elections held on a general election cycle?



*Should be addressed at the local level

10. Should the State change the qualifications for school board candidacy, requiring a signed statewide conflict of interest and code of ethics affidavit?



11. Should the State change the qualifications for school board candidacy to disqualify anyone employed by a public or private K-12 school or school system?



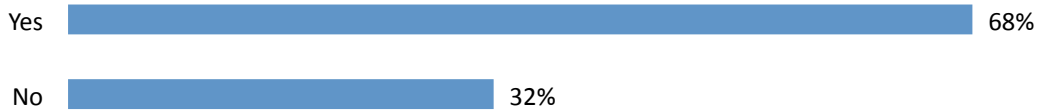
12. Should the State change the qualifications for school board candidacy to mandate passing a drug screen?



13. Should the State change the qualifications for school board candidacy asking for background checks?



14. Should the State change the qualifications for school board candidacy to require all candidates be high school graduates or have a GED?



15. For board members seeking re-election, they must disclose compliance with required training, ethics and conflict of interest policies; do you agree?

