

# Minnesota State



MINNESOTA STATE

## 2023 Board Assessment Workshop

*Dr. Peter Smith, Senior Consultant  
AGB Consulting*

**19 September 2023**

# Today's workshop format

<b>Presentation of results &amp; findings Discussion &amp; questions</b>	45 minutes
<b>Working groups – focused discussion on key topics</b>	75 minutes
<b>Report out and wrap-up</b>	60 minutes

# Assessment process

---

- 75 question survey completed by board members, board staff, cabinet
- Interviews with board members, Chancellor Malhotra, Chancellor Olson
- Review of key governance documents

# Underlying assumptions

- The Board selects the Chancellor, and the Chancellor leads the system.
- The Chancellor brings strategy, policy and budget recommendations to the Board for review and approval.
- Board should be discussing, amending as appropriate, and approving strategy, policy and budget issues as brought forward by the Chancellor.

# Issues Identified & Potential Solutions

## **ISSUE #1** **Need to be more proactive in addressing issues**

- Focus on getting information from staff, presidents, and subcommittees as pre-reads and devote board meeting time to discussing issues.
- Clarify what constitutes “Board eligible” issues.
- Assess current committee structure: does it need rethinking?

## **ISSUE #2** **Need better data on measurable outcomes and leadership performance**

- Implement system and institutional dashboards and receive performance analyses annually from institutions.
- Receive more information on leadership performance in executive sessions
- Consider differentiation by institution type
- Focus on Equity 2030 and NextGen outcomes

- **Equity 2030 is our North Star**
  - Determine policies that will close the equity gap
  - Need visibility re: progress
  - Reverse engineer to identify the steps and actions to move forward in measurable way
  
- **NextGen is critical to capacity development**
  - Need regular updates on project progress
  - Determine how Equity 2030 scorecards connect to this
  - Ensure design supports systemwide data analytics

# Trustee Priorities (cont.)

---

- **Ongoing priorities**
  - Ensure affordability
  - Improve and align transfer processes
  - Identify and serve new enrollment populations
  - Strengthen career programs and information

# Board Practices To Consider

- The Chair speaks for the board...but how do board members have conversations with public?
- Improve and deepen new trustee orientation
- Review appropriation model based on chancellor recommendations
- Rebalance systemness vs. institutional autonomy

# Risks Identified

---

- Slow pace of change
- Enrollments
- Misalignment of facilities to future needs
- Institutional autonomy
- Size and complexity of the system
- Marketing

# Change Opportunities

- Focus on learner life cycle
- Implement delivery and support services to support older learners
- Implement common course numbering & outcomes
- Design new credentials, certificate stacking
- Outcomes-based assessment for better link to workplace
- Become an open-source resource to other colleges

# Recommendations

- ❑ Consider third-party study on trends, challenges, solutions on the national landscape
- ❑ Consider consultant to oversee and institutionalize change management processes
- ❑ Consider identifying unique characteristics of colleges vs. universities

# Working Groups - Topics

- 1. What does the Board need to know and do to assure success for Equity 2030? (See slides: Change Opportunities, Trustee Priorities)**
- 1. What does the Board need to know and do to ensure that NextGen meets requirements? What is the profile of financial information, student information, and institutional performance that can be routinely reviewed? (See slides: Trustee Priorities, Risks Identified)**
- 2. How do Board practices need to change to consider the recommendations made in this presentation? How do we proceed successfully on Board/System strategic priorities? (See slide: Issues Identified slide)**