

**Guiding Principles:** 1) Generating effective governance for continuous improvement of the school's program relies on clearly defined roles and responsibilities of the board in relationship with the school leadership. 2) Establishing the right relationship between the board chair and the school's leader is essential for a harmony of productive engagement dedicated to ongoing and continuous improvement of the school's program and operations.

**Universal Constructs for Effective Catholic School Boards:** The common tools to be found in all board models that are to be present in all aspects of board function.

- Collaboration – willingness, knowledge, and skills to function collaboratively
- Dream – willingness to dream and take a risk. Skills in SWOT analysis to manage those dreams
- Think SMART – think strategically, assessing progress, recognizing reality, seeking results, focused on the outcome in a timely pathway for success.
- Understanding and respecting the value of the mission & purpose of Catholic education
- Spirituality – using the a modified Jesuit Examen for regular reflection, contemplation, and imagination in order to develop a process for committees and the board to be organized and future focused.