



## Books Approved for Board Member Certification

The following publications may be used for the Advanced, Master and Distinguished Certifications. If you wish to read a book for credit that is not on this list, please request permission in advance by emailing [training@msbanet.org](mailto:training@msbanet.org). Books must pertain to education or to board governance, must be authored in the last ten years, and must be at least 100 pages in length. To order any of these publications, visit <https://www.msbanet.org/booklist-by-strand/>.

### Strand Key:

BOG - Board Operations and Governance  
 SA - Student Achievement  
 SSS - School Safety & Security

CIE - Contemporary Issues in Education  
 SLF - School Law and Finance

Title	Author	Date	Publisher	Strand(s)	Format
50 Myths and Lies That Threaten America's Public Schools*	Berliner, D. & Glass, G.	2014	Teachers College Press	CIE	P, K
Accountability in Action, 2nd. Edition	Reeves, D.	2014	Advanced Learning Press	CIE SA	P, A
Aligning School Districts as PLCs	Van Clay, M. & Soldwedel, P.	2011	Solution Tree	CIE SA	P, K
Answers to Essential Questions About Standards, Assessments, Grading & Reporting	Guskey, T. & Jung, L.	2012	Corwin Press	SA	P, K
Balanced Leadership for Powerful Learning	Goodwin, B. & Cameron, G.	2015	ASCD	BOG	P, K
Becoming a Better Board Member: A Guide to Effective School Board Service, 3rd Ed.	NSBA	2006	National School Boards Association	BOG	P
A Better Way to Budget: Building Support for Bold, Student-Centered Change in Public Schools	Levenson, N.	2015	Harvard Education Press	SLF	P
Beyond the Bake Sale: The Essential Guide to Family-School Partnerships	Henderson, A. et al	2007	The New Press	CIE	P, K
Boards that Matter: Building Blocks for Implementing Coherent Governance and Policy Governance	Quinn, R. & Dawson, L.	2011	Rowman & Littlefield Education	BOG	P, K
Brain Rules (Updated and Expanded): 12 Principles for Surviving and Thriving at Work, Home and School	Medina, J.	2014	Pear Press	CIE	P, K, A
Building Equity: Policies and Practices to Empower All Learners*	Smith, D. et al	2017	ASCD	CIE	P, K
Building Great School Board-Superintendent Teams*	Balch, B. & Adamson, M.	2017	Solution Tree Press	BOG	P, K

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Building Relationships, Yielding Results: How Superintendents Can Work with School Boards to Create Productive Teams	Hackett, J.	2015	Harvard Education Press	BOG	P
Built to Last: Successful Habits of Visionary Companies, 3rd Ed.	Collins, J. & Porras, J.	2004	Harper Business	BOG	P, K, A
Closing the Achievement Gap: No Excuses	Davenport, P. & Anderson, G.	2002	Amer. Productivity Center	SA	P
Columbine	Cullen, D.	2010	Twelve	CIE SSS	P, K, A
Columbine: A True Story, 2nd Ed.	Kass, J.	2014	Ghost Road Press	CIE SSS	P, K
Compelling Conversations: Connecting Leadership to Student Achievement	Piercy, T.	2014	Houghton Mifflin Harcourt	SA	P
The Complete Idiot's Guide to Parliamentary Procedure Fast-Track	Slaughter, J.	2012	Alpha	BOG SLF	P, K
Complex People: Insights at the Intersection of Black Culture and American Social Life*	Howard, D.	2015	HUE Initiatives Press	CIE	P
Courageous Conversations About Race: A Field Guide for Achieving Equity in Schools, 2nd Ed.	Singleton, G.	2014	Corwin Press	CIE	P, K
The Culturally Proficient School: An Implementation Guide for School Leaders, 2nd Ed.	Lindsey, R. & Roberts, L.	2013	Corwin Press	SA CIE	P, K
Cybertraps for Educators*	Lane, F.	2015	CreateSpace Independent Publishing	SSS CIE	P, K
Death and Life of the Great American School System: How Testing and Choice are Undermining Education (3rd Edition)	Ravitch, D.	2016	Basic Books	BOG CIE	P, K
Effective School Boards: Strategies for Improving Board Performance	Smoley, E	1999	Jossey-Bass	BOG	P
Effective Superintendent-School Board Practices: Strategies for Developing and Maintaining Good Relationship with Your Board	Townsend, R. & Johnston, G.	2006	Corwin Press	BOG	P, K
Engage Every Family: Five Simple Principles	Constantino, S.	2015	Corwin Press	CIE SA	P, K
Engaging Students with Poverty in Mind: Practical Strategies for Improving Achievement	Jensen, E.	2013	ASCD	SA CIE	P, K
The Essential School Board Book: Better Governance in the Age of Accountability	Walser, N. & Elmore, R.	2009	Harvard Education Press	BOG SA	P, K
Every Child, Every Day: A Digital Conversion Model for Student Achievement	Edwards, M.	2013	Pearson Publishing	SA	P, K

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Excellence Through Equity: Five Principles of Courageous Leadership to Guide Achievement for Every Student	Blankstein, A. & Noguera, P.	2016	ASCD	SA CIE	P, K
Failing Our Brightest Kids: The Global Challenge of Educating High-Ability Students	Finn, C. & Wright, B.	2015	Harvard Education Press	CIE SA	P
Failure Is Not an Option: Six Principles That Guide Student Achievement in Highly Effective Schools, 3rd Ed.	Blankstein, A.	2012	Corwin Press	CIE SA	P, K
The Final Report & Findings of the Safe School Initiative: Implications for the Prevention of School Attacks in the United States	Vossekuil, B. et al	2013	US Secret Service & US Department of Education	SSS CIE	P, F
Five Habits of High-Impact School Boards	Eadie, D.	2004	Scarecrow Education	BOG	P
The Flat World and Education: How America's Commitment to Equity Will Determine Our Future (Multicultural Education)	Darling-Hammond, L.	2010	Teachers College Press	CIE SA	P, K, A
A Framework for Understanding Poverty: A Cognitive Approach, 5th Ed.	Payne, R.	2013	aha Process, Inc.	CIE SA	P, K, A
Good Governance Is A Choice: A Way to Re-create Your Board - the Right Way	Quinn, R. & Dawson, L.	2011	Rowman & Littlefield Education	BOG	P, K
Good to Great - Why Some Companies Make the Leap ... and Others Don't	Collins, J.	2001	Harper Business	BOG CIE	P, K, A
Governing at the Top: Building a Board-Superintendent Strategic Governing Team	Eadie, D.	2014	Rowman & Littlefield Education	BOG	P, K
Guide for Preventing and Responding to School Violence, 2nd Ed.	Int'l. Assoc. of Chiefs of Police (IACP)	2012	U.S. Dept. of Justice	SSS CIE	P, F
How NOT to Be a Terrible School Board Member	Mayer, R.	2011	Corwin Press	BOG	P, K
Improving School Board Effectiveness: A Balanced Governance Approach	Alsbury, T. & Gore, P.	2015	Harvard Education Press	BOG	P, K
Improving Student Learning When Budgets Are Tight	Odden, A.	2012	Corwin Press	SLF	P, K
Inevitable: Mass Customized Learning: Learning in the Age of Empowerment (New Edition)	Schwahn, C. & McGarvey, B.	2012	CreateSpace Independent Publishing	SA	P, K
Inevitable Too! The Total Leader Embraces Mass Customized Learning	Schwahn, C. & McGarvey, B.	2013	CreateSpace Independent Publishing	SA	P, K
Innocent Targets: When Terrorism Comes to School*	Dorn, M. & Dorn, C.	2005	Safe Havens International	SSS CIE	P
The Key Work of School Boards Guidebook, 3rd Ed.	Gemberling, K. et al	2015	National School Boards Association	BOG	P

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The Leader in Me: How Schools and Parents Around the World Are Inspiring Greatness, One Child at a Time, 2nd Ed.	Covey, S. et al	2014	Free Press	CIE BOG	P, K, A
Leaders of Learning: How District, School, and Classroom Leaders Improve Student Achievement	DuFour, R. & Marzano, R.	2011	Solution Tree	SA	P, K
Leadership and School Boards: Guarding the Trust in an Era of Community Engagement	Reimer, L. & Wiens, J.	2015	Rowman & Littlefield Education	BOG	P, K
Leading for Equity: The Pursuit of Excellence in Montgomery County Public Schools	Childress, S. & Doyle, D.	2009	Harvard Education Press	BOG CIE	P, K
Leading for Learning: How to Transform Schools into Learning Organizations	Schlechty, P.	2009	Jossey-Bass	BOG CIE	P, K
Malcolm and Me: How to Use the Baldrige Process to Improve Your School	Maurer, R. & Pedersen, S.	2003	Rowman & Littlefield Education	BOG CIE	P, K
A Match on Dry Grass: Community Organizing as a Catalyst for School Reform	Warren, M. & Mapp, K.	2011	Oxford University Press	CIE	P, K
The Mental and Emotional State of School-Aged Students*	Brooks, S.	2018	XLIBRIS	SSS CIE	P, K
The Money Myth: School Resources, Outcomes and Equity	Grubb, W.	2009	Russell Sage Foundation	SLF	P, A
More Courageous Conversations About Race	Singleton, G.	2012	Corwin Press	CIE	P, K
On Common Ground: The Power of Professional Learning Communities	Barth, R. & DuFour, R.	2005	Solution Tree	CIE SA	P, K
Our Kids: The American Dream in Crisis	Putnam, R.	2015	Simon & Schulster	SA CIE	P, K, A
Performance is Key: Connecting the Links to Leadership and Excellence*	Cotter, V. & Hassler, R.	2017	Rowman & Littlefield Education	BOG SA	P, K
Poverty is NOT a Learning Disability: Equalizing Opportunities for Low SES Students	Howard, T. & Dresser, S.	2015	Skyhorse Publishing	SA	P, K
The Power of Smart Goals—Using Goals to Improve Student Learning	O'Neill, J. & Conzemius, A.	2005	Solution Tree	BOG SA	P, K
The Principal's Quick Reference Guide to School Law: Reducing Liability, Litigation and Other Potential Legal Tangles, 3rd ed.	Hachiya, R. et al	2014	Corwin Press	SLF	P, K
Proactive School Security and Emergency Preparedness Planning	Trump, K.	2011	Corwin Press	SSS CIE BOG	P, K
Promoting Your School: Going Beyond PR, 3rd Edition	Warner, C.	2009	Corwin Press	CIE	P, K
The Public School Advantage: Why Public Schools Outperform Private Schools	Lubeinski, C. & Lubeinski, S.	2013	University of Chicago Press	CIE SA	P, K

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Pyramid Response to Intervention: RTI, Professional Learning Communities, and How to Respond When Kids Don't Learn	Buffum, A. & Mattos, M.	2011	Solution Tree	SA CIE	P, K
Rac(e)ing to Class: Confronting Poverty and Race in Schools and Classrooms	Milner, H.	2015	Harvard Education Press	CIE	P
Reign of Error: The Hoax of the Privatization Movement and the Danger to America's Public Schools	Ravitch, D.	2014	Vintage	CIE	P, K, A
The Relentless Search for Better Ways	Bearden, J.	2006	HEA	CIE	P
Revisiting Professional Learning Communities at Work: New Insights for Improving Schools	DuFour, R. & DuFour, R.	2008	Solution Tree	CIE	P, K
The Risk of School Rampage: Assessing & Preventing Threats of School Violence*	Madfis, E.	2014	Palgrave Macmillan	SSS CIE	P, K
Running All the Red Lights: A Journey of System-Wide Educational Reform	Holliday, Terry & Clark, B.	2009	ASQ Quality Press	BOG CIE	P
The School Board Fieldbook: Leading with Vision	Van Clay, M. & Soldwedel, P.	2008	Solution Tree and Amer. Assn. of School Administrators	BOG	P, K
A School Board Guide to Leading Successful Schools: Focusing on Learning	Hirsch, S. & Foster, A.	2013	Corwin Press	BOG	P, K
School Budgeting for Hard Times: Confronting Cutbacks and Critics	Poston, W.	2010	Corwin Press	SLF	P, K
School Communication That Works	DeSieghardt, K.	2013	Rowman & Littlefield Education	CIE	P, K
School Finance Elections: A Comprehensive Planning Model for Success, 2nd Edition	Lifto, D.	2010	Rowman and Littlefield Education	SLF	P, K
The School Shooter: A Threat Assessment Perspective	O'Toole, M.	2013	FBI	SSS CIE	P, K, F
Schools Cannot Do It Alone: Building Public Support for America's Public Schools	Voller, J.	2010	Enlightenment Press	BOG CIE	P, K
Schools That Succeed: How Educators Marshal the Power of Systems for Improvement	Chenoweth, K.	2017	Harvard Education Press	SA CIE	P
The Secrets of School Board Success: Practical Tips for Board Members	Hamilton, L.	2007	Rowman & Littlefield Education	BOG	P
Smart Money: Using Educational Resources to Accomplish Ambitious Learning Goals	Adams, J.	2010	Harvard Education Press	SLF	P
The Smartest Kids in the World: and How They Got That Way	Ripley, A.	2014	Simon & Schulster	SA CIE	P, K, A

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Spending Money Wisely: Getting the Most From School District Budgets	Levenson, N. et al	2014	District Management Council	SLF	, F
Stronger Together: Answering the Questions of Collaborative Leadership*	Martin, T. & Rains, C.	2018	Solution Tree Press	BOG CIE	P, K
Teaching with Poverty in Mind: What Being Poor Does to Kids' Brains and What Schools Can Do About It	Jensen, E.	2009	ASCD	SA CIE	P, K
Threat Assessment In Schools: A Guide to Managing Threatening Situations and to Creating Safe School Climates	Fein, R.	2013	United States Secret Service & United States Department of Education	SSS CIE	P, K
Transforming School Culture: How to Overcome Staff Division, 2nd edition	Muhammad, A.	2017	Solution Tree	CIE	P, K
Turning High-Poverty Schools into High-Performing Schools	Parrett, W. & Budge, K.	2012	ASCD	BOG SA	P, K
Vanishing School Boards: Where School Boards Have Gone, Why We Need Them, and How We Can Bring Them Back	Rice, P.	2013	Rowman & Littlefield Education	BOG	P, K
Violence Among Students and School Staff: Understanding and Preventing the Causes of School Violence*	Brooks, S.	2017	CreateSpace Independent Publishing	SSS CIE	P, K
The Violence Continuum: Creating a Safe School Climate*	Manvell, E.	2012	Rowman & Littlefield Education	SSS CIE	P, K
We Can't Teach What We Don't Know: White Teachers, Multiracial Schools, 3rd Ed.	Howard, G.	2016	Teachers College Press	CIE	P, K
Weakfish - Bullying Through the Eyes of a Child, 2nd Ed.*	Dorn, M. & Richards, B.	2006	Safe Havens International, Inc.	SSS CIE	P
What School Boards Can Do: Reform Governance for Urban Schools	McAdams, D.	2006	Teacher College Press	BOG CIE	P
Where the Finger Points*	Brooks, S.	2015	CreateSpace Independent Publishing	SSS CIE	P, K
Why Rural Schools Matter*	Tieken, M.	2014	University of North Carolina Press	CIE	P, K

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