HOWDY, PARTNER!
10 Tips for an Effective Head/Board-Chair Relationship

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The head-board chair relationship is like ________________ because ________________. 
The relationship… is key.

Trust, respect and a willingness to rely on each other’s strengths are critical, along with a common understanding of the organization’s goals and the strategies needed to get there.

What role does the board chair play?
Together they model the leadership relationship in action.

The role of the board chair. NAIS, 9/18/15.
ISACS Headship Transitions

Typical Timetable & Abrupt*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Typical Timetable</th>
<th>Abrupt</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>20</td>
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<td>2019</td>
<td>31</td>
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September 1
1. Recognize and respect your distinct roles.
2. Be aware you’re being watched.
3. Schedule frequent, regular meetings to ensure proactive communication.
4. Intentionally work to build **empathy** and trust.
5. Expect and honor confidentiality.
6. Establish mutuality in goal setting and evaluation.
7. Learn together.
8. Build a support network.
9. When needed, get help.
10. Cultivate the pipeline.
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10 TIPS
Ideal Head/Chair in the Partnership

The Mind of ________________
The Heart of ________________
The Voice of ________________
The ______ of ________________
An Exercise To Do with Your Head/Chair

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Start</th>
<th>Stop</th>
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Events

Association workshops, conferences, and webinars

NAIS Leadership through Partnership

NAIS Trustee Table Podcast
Resources

2019 accreditation rubric. NWAIS.


Covey, S. *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People*. Simon & Schuster, 2013.


Daggett, C. Out the door: What we can learn from abrupt departures from headship. The Trustee’s Letter, Independent Thinking, June 2018.

Gifford, G. You're not the boss of me: Board chairs and CEOS. Cause & Effect, January 17, 2011.

Heads and boards working in partnership: 2012-13 NAIS governance study (NAIS-member password required).


Independent School Chairpersons Association

ISACS resources: Governance
ISACS standards for membership


*NAIS Trustees’ Guide*.


Shahan, K. *Board chair job description (and relationship with the head)*. ISACS, March 2014.

Weaver, R. *Board room: What you need to know about executive sessions*  *Independent School*, NAIS, Summer 2018.