

# HEALTHY SCHOOL BOARDS COURSE

## NESA APPROVED PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (FOUR HOURS)

The effectiveness of the governance provided by a school board is influenced by the conduct of its members, the relationships within the board and the relationships between the board and the principal.

This course aims to assist school boards in strengthening these vital areas through individual and group work. The four-hour course is comprised of two sections listed below.

### PRE-WORKSHOP COACHING SESSION

The purpose of this one-hour phone/skype coaching session is to focus on each individual board member's expertise and strengths to help them understand how they can best contribute to the board's healthy functioning. The session will be based on the results from an online survey that each participant will complete. These results highlight and explain their top strengths.

### HEALTHY SCHOOL BOARDS WORKSHOP

This three-hour workshop brings members of the board together to focus on and discuss these vital components of board health:

- **HEALTHY CONDUCT** – Helping boards develop/review their Code of Conduct and highlight the importance of these behavioural standards.
- **HEALTHY DYNAMICS** – Outlining the main characteristics of healthy board team dynamics.
- **HEALTHY BOARD-PRINCIPAL RELATIONSHIPS** – Discovering how the vital relationship between the board and the principal can be strengthened.

By utilising the results of the strengths survey, board members will develop a greater appreciation and understanding of each other's strengths and contributions to the board as well as discussing how the board can work more effectively together.

### FACILITATOR

This course is facilitated by Dr Steve Bagi who, for the past decade, has specialised in leadership development and team building with Independent schools throughout Australia. He is also currently teaching 'Leadership and Team Dynamics' at Bond University. Previously, Steve was a pastor for over twenty years and has published work in the area of burnout in leaders. In 2015, Steve completed a PhD in Educational Leadership, focusing on the challenges faced by beginning principals of Independent schools. His research highlighted the importance of building and maintaining a healthy relationship between the board and the school principal.



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