

Position Description

IEAG Governing Committee member



This brief will give you some idea of what is expected of the Governing Committee of the Inclusive Education Action Group (IEAG). These skills, abilities and qualities that are required of those who govern the IEAG are not presented in any order but are numbered for ease of reading.

1. An understanding of the trusteeship duties that apply to governing boards in general, including compliance with the law, the IEAG constitution and Code of Conduct, loyalty to the organisation that goes beyond personal and other interests, and the need to display thoroughness and discretion when carrying out work on behalf of the Governing Committee. Individual Governing Committee members become equally responsible and accountable for the decisions and actions of the Governing Committee as a whole.
2. An ability to think strategically, see the big picture, imagine the future and be prepared to provide creative and constructive input into future plans and possibilities.
3. The ability to provide leadership to the organisation. IEAG is a small and rapidly developing organisation whose two paid staff adhere to a culture of continuous improvement. In order to lead such a progressive and highly-motivated organisation, Governing Committee members must be equal to the task and able to match this level of performance in the manner in which they carry out their work on the Governing Committee.
4. Knowledge of the IEAG, its business and the political, economic and social environment in which it operates. Such knowledge enables Governing Committee members to draw a distinction between those factors, issues and trends that are important and those which are not.
5. A passion for the work and Mission of the IEAG. This must go hand in hand with an understanding of the needs, expectations and aspirations of members and a desire to seek opportunities to engage with them on issues that affect them. Although elected by the current membership to represent their interests, Governing

Committee members must recognise however that they have an obligation to a future potential membership as well and be prepared to govern the IEAG with this in mind.

6. A working knowledge of financial matters. Governing Committee members must be able to understand the IEAG's financial position and the implications this carries for current and future functions and opportunities. A basic understanding of the ways in which financial data is reported to the Governing Committee will be an advantage. Committee members with substantial skills and experience in financial and risk management often prove invaluable on the Governing Committee.

7. To support, listen to, and value a range of perspectives, arguments and contributions; to ask questions and seek clarification; and to take a broad evidence-based and collaborative approach to decision making.

8. A commitment to being well-prepared for Governing Committee meetings. This includes having read and digested Governing Committee papers, being clear about issues of concern and having formed initial opinions and questions so that participation in Governing Committee discussion and decision-making is based on full knowledge and sound reasoning.

9. An appreciation that the Governing Committee's effectiveness is based on teamwork and sharing the workload. Governing Committee members must be willing and able to share Governing Committee duties and obligations by serving on Governing Committee sub-committees or managing portfolios.