



Spring Governance Workshop: BECOMING A BOARD OF THE FUTURE

Sponsored By:



WHEN:	Thursday, March 5, 2026, 9:00 – 11:00 AM
WHERE:	Virtual (Zoom link will be sent a few days prior)
AUDIENCE:	Independent School Trustees, Heads, Directors & Aspiring Heads
Pricing ACIS Members:	Free if your school holds an ACIS PD Series Subscription; or \$90 per person for non-subscription members
Pricing Non-ACIS Members:	\$95 per person

*Slides and recording of the main session will be provided to registrants after the event

Workshop Description

Becoming a Board of the Future

Multiple signs indicate we should expect continued disruption during the emergent and more distant future. That forecast means boards must become increasingly adept at engaging in generative and strategic work. This interactive workshop will explain the rationale for this need; consider some of the current glimmers, trends, and waves; and equip trustees with concrete practices to hone their skills. Related topics will include:

- Tenants of good governance and recent trends in independent school boards
- Insights into the coming waves
- Strategies to engage in scenario planning
- Practical tips to support this work

About the Presenters



TRACY BENNETT: Spending summers sailing on Lake Michigan, Tracy learned from her father how to chart a course using the practical parallel rule as well as an instinctive understanding of weather patterns. This approach – utilizing data and facts while paying attention to intuition and changing circumstances – continues to serve her well. High energy and happiest when outdoors, Tracy has run marathons, hiked around Mont Blanc, and walked across Spain on the Camino Santiago. She's thrilled to have recently returned to New England (close to her alma mater, Dartmouth), with easy access to the Green and White Mountains.

Tracy brings a comprehensive understanding of schools to her work. A parent of five independent school graduates, Tracy has 15 years of experience as a trustee, including serving as board chair. She began her professional journey teaching at a New Hampshire boarding school, and then shifted into senior leadership roles in enrollment management, communications, and fundraising after moving to Seattle. As a head of school for the past decade, Tracy loved the variety each day offered – joining kindergartners for morning circle to a meeting with a major donor to a facility construction tour – each uniquely rewarding.



MARK CROTTY: “Looking for the perfect pass” sums up Mark Crotty’s approach to life, work, and leadership. Inspired by his high school soccer hero, Vladislav Bogigevic, Mark first applied this concept on the field, playing through the semi-professional level. Over time, it became a core tenet of his leadership philosophy. For Mark, the “perfect pass” is about recognizing the potential in people, situations, and organizations and then creating opportunities for success. In soccer, it might mean anticipating where a player prefers the ball, while in leadership, it involves asking thoughtful questions, understanding colleagues’ strengths, and providing

opportunities for growth and development. Mark demonstrated this approach by building a state championship soccer program at the Episcopal School of Acadiana, starting the program from scratch and leading it to a state title in just seven years. It also played a key role in his tenure as head of St. John’s Episcopal School in Dallas, and, most recently, as Executive Director of the Northwest Association of Independent Schools. Under his leadership NWAIS gained a national reputation as a dynamic, forward-thinking association. NWAIS has rethought the accreditation process and expanded its professional development offerings, which were often oversubscribed.

Please register online at www.acischools.org

For more information, contact ACIS at (303) 444-2201.

Send payment to: ACIS -- 4000 S. Wadsworth Blvd., Ste. 230 -- Littleton, CO 80123

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