



Board Governance Committee

Agenda Item 6b

March 17, 2020

Item Name: Board Workstream 5 Update: Insight Tool

Program: Board Governance

Item Type: Information

Recommendation

This agenda item provides the Governance Committee with an opportunity to review recent developments in the implementation of the Board's Insight Tool.

Executive Summary

Insight was created using beta testing and board member feedback that identified key items necessary for their oversight responsibilities. The information currently provided to the board will be easily accessible and able to be retrieved in real time as reports are made available. This will ensure the board has access to all reporting and critical information previously received at or prior to board and committee meetings. (See attachment for example.) Additionally, board members will be able to efficiently search necessary information, both past and present, in a timely manner while customizing their portal to their specific needs and/or committees.

Strategic Plan

This agenda item supports the 2017-2022 Strategic Plan to reduce complexity across the enterprise and the objective to streamline operations to gain efficiencies, improve productivity, and reduce costs.

Investment Beliefs

Investment Belief 10: Strong processes and teamwork and deep resources are needed to achieve CalPERS goals and objectives...CalPERS will be best positioned for success if it: Has strong governance.

Background

At the January 2019 Board Offsite, Anne Simpson, CalPERS Director of Board Governance and Strategy, and Cari Dominguez, National Association of Corporate Directors (NACD), presented the findings of the Board Self-Evaluation completed in the fall of 2018. Subsequently the CalPERS Board President established five workstreams to follow-up on the findings: Board Curriculum; Roles and Responsibilities; Meeting Materials; Code of Conduct; and Insight Tool Prototype. In July 2019, the board received a prototype viewing of the Insight program that was created based on feedback from the Workstream 5's beta tests. At the August 2019 Board meeting, the Board approved development of the Insight platform to provide easy-to-navigate access to board materials and to serve as a dashboard of "Vital Signs" to help Board members identify the essential information necessary for their oversight responsibilities.

Analysis

The goal of the Insight tool is to complement the efforts of the other four board workstreams which were established following the NACD-led evaluation. This will ultimately enable board members to have easy access to key information and board decisions, as well as the relevant materials created by the other workstreams such as education and training. Insight's core functionality has been piloted and updated to reflect board member feedback. Insight is set to run concurrently with existing programs used until all archived information and functionality has met board expectations.

Budget and Fiscal Impacts

N/A

Benefits and Risks

This recommendation will benefit the organization by improving board members' access to essential information in a timely manner to improve strategic oversight.

Attachments

Attachment 1 – Insight Tool Metrics & Thresholds

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