OVERVIEW OF THE GOVERNING BOARD EQUITY IN STUDENT SUCCESS PROJECT

September 14, 2021

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The Governing Board Equity in Student Success Project

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in Student Success Project

Comments by Henry Stoever

President & CEO

Association of Governing Boards of Universities
& Colleges

AGB

Accountability

Oversight

Student Success

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Comments by Andrew (Drew) Koch, PhD

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John N. Gardner Institute for Excellence in Undergraduate Education

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What Must Occur and Why

What You Told Us

Our Theory of Change

What You / We Will Do Together

What You Can Expect from Us

Next Steps

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What Must Occur and Why

- The Commonwealth of Kentucky's 60 * 30 goal will only be realized if graduation rates for first-generation, low-income, rural, and underrepresented minority students increase substantially over present levels.
- Trustees must improve partnership with and support of Presidents to help make this aspirational goal a reality
- Public trust, reputations, relevance, and funding are all at stake
  - Ultimately, this is about your mission

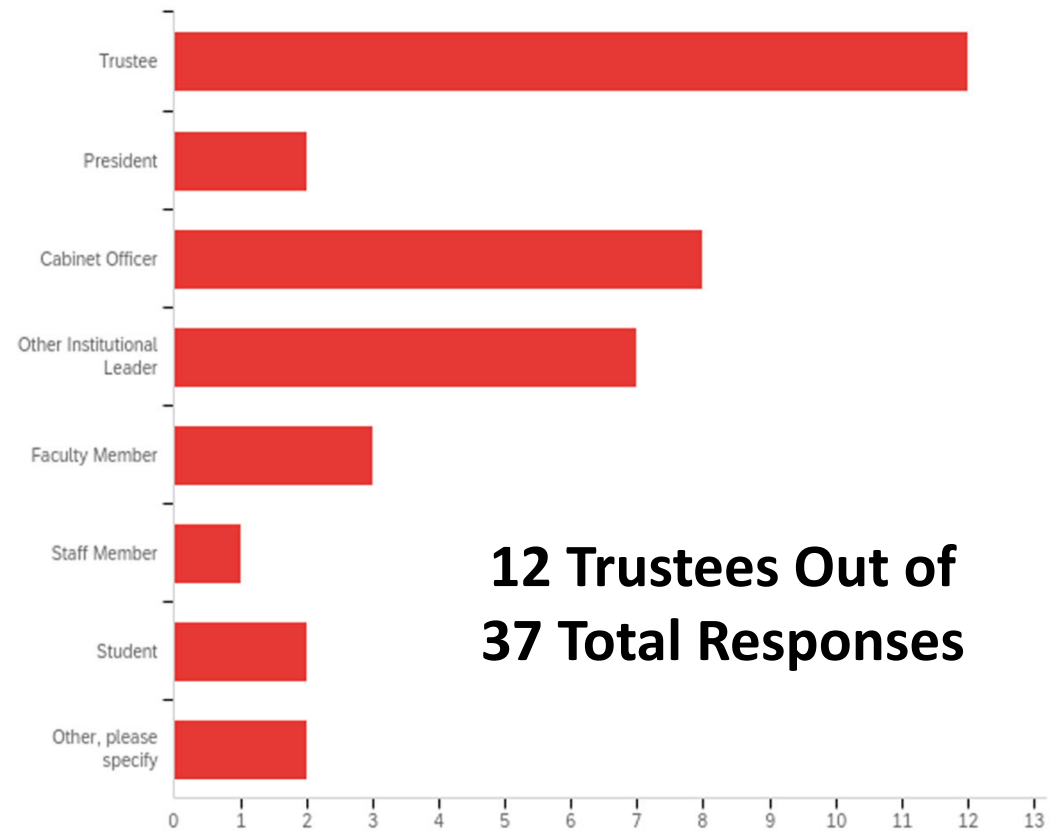The Governing Board Equity
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What You Told Us

- Survey of Kentucky Postsecondary Institution Leaders
- 15 Student Success Questions
- 38 Total Responses

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What You Told Us

What is your role?

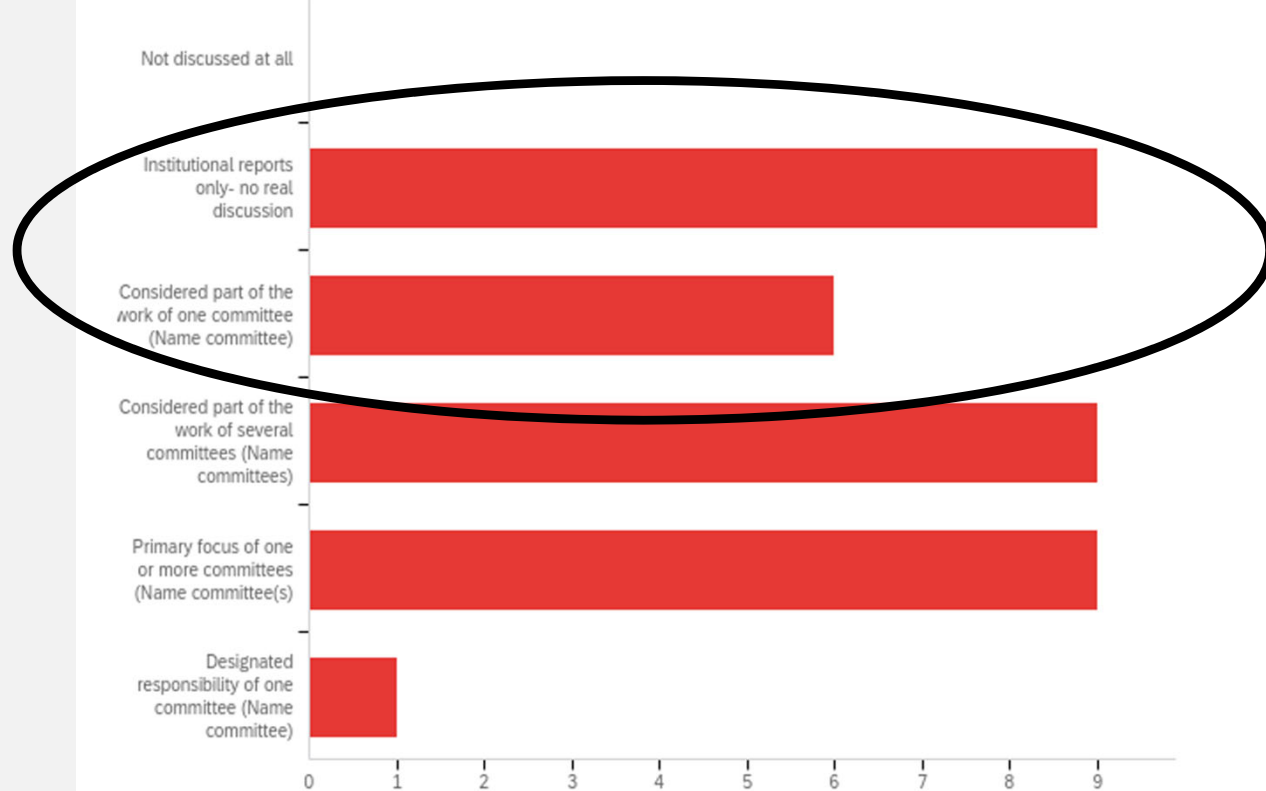**12 Trustees Out of 37 Total Responses**

What You Told Us

How are discussions of student success outcomes structured into the governance work?

**27% No Discussion**
18% Discussed in One Committee

Chart categories (top to bottom):
- Not discussed at all
- Institutional reports only- no real discussion
- Considered part of the work of one committee (Name committee)
- Considered part of the work of several committees (Name committees)
- Primary focus of one or more committees (Name committee(s)
- Designated responsibility of one committee (Name committee)

What You Told Us

How well prepared / briefed are <u>YOU</u> to address your institution's progress with student success?
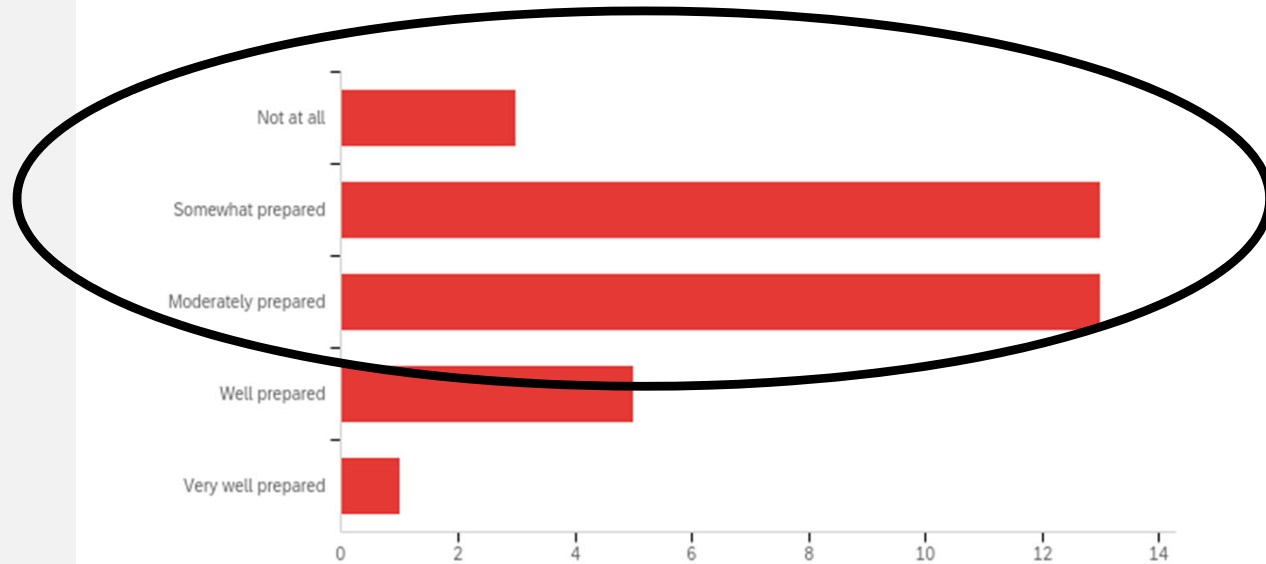
Nearly 70% Below Well Prepared
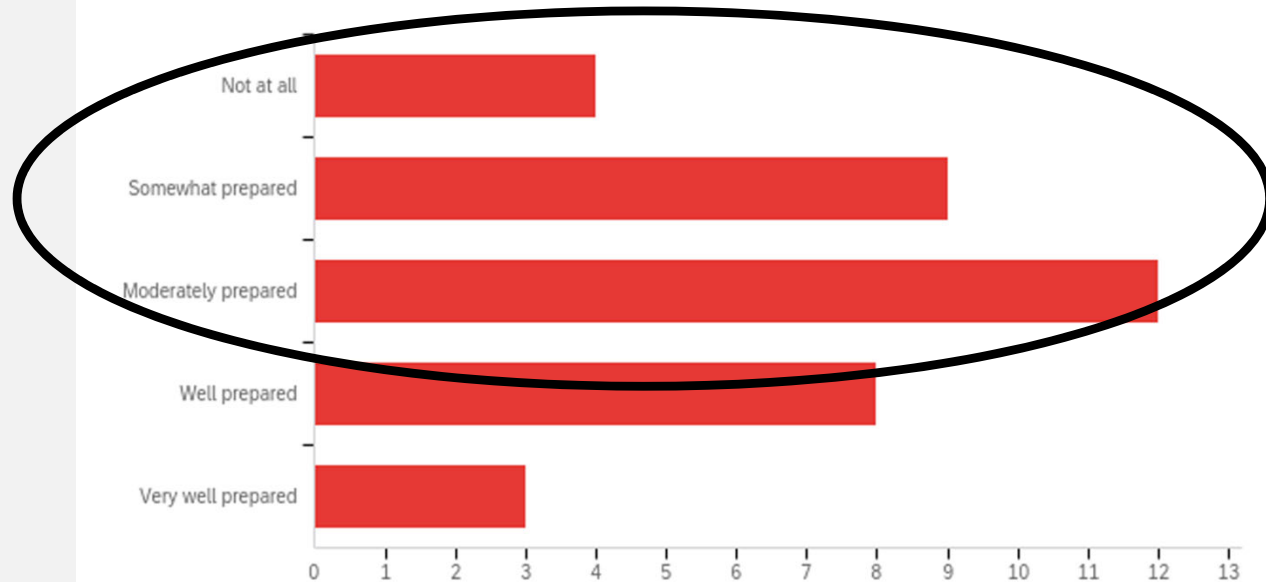
What You Told Us

How well prepared / briefed do you think your **TRUSTEES** are to address your institutional progress with student success?
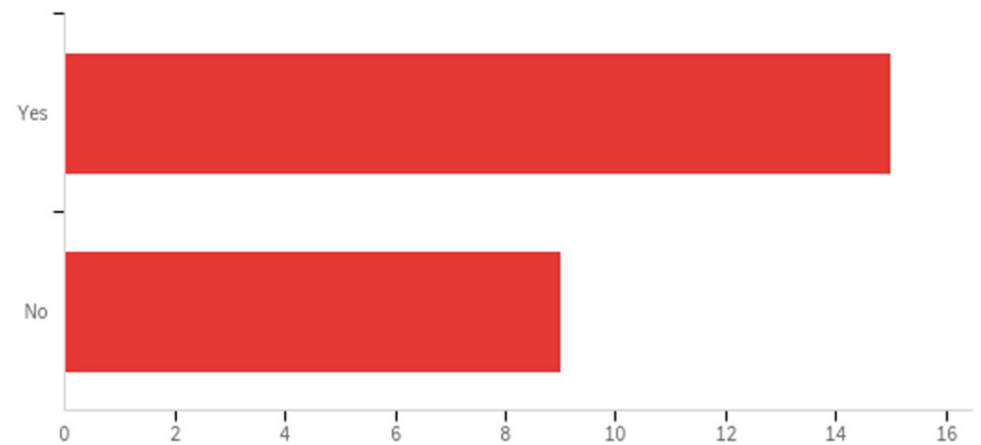
83% Below Well Prepared

What You Told Us

Is your governing board actively discussing how to accommodate oversight of student success outcomes into the work of the Board?

Approximately 40% No

What You Told Us

- Approximately 47% Indicated Student Success Either Not Discussed By Board or Discussed Only By 1 Board Committee

- Nearly 70% of All Respondents Felt **They** Were Below Well Prepared to Discuss Student Success

- Nearly 83% of all Respondents Felt **Trustees** Were Below Well Prepared

- Nearly 40% of all Respondents indicated Board was not actively discussing oversight of student success

Our Theory of Change

Presidents and their institutions will be more successful in realizing student success outcomes – especially for students of color, students from rural backgrounds, and students experiencing poverty – when they actively learn and work with their Boards to create and appropriately oversee equitable student success goals

Our Theory of Change – Working Maxims

- Boards <u>operating separately</u> from their Presidents and institutions is a bad idea
- Boards <u>learning separately</u> from their Presidents and institutions is a bad idea
- Presidents, boards, and other institutional <u>leaders learning & appropriately operating together</u> is the gold standard for realizing improvements in student success
  - Especially for the success of students of color, students from rural backgrounds, and students experiencing poverty

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What We Will Do Together

- 3 Years
- 3 Components
  - Academy with institutional teams
  - Deep retention redesign with 7 institutions
  - Project learning and dissemination

Prompts to Ponder

1. What is your most pressing question or concern about this project?

2. What would you like to make sure we include in this work with you?

Next Steps

- Discussion of Prompts
- Individual Project Shaping Discussions with Presidents

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