A Board Member's Prayer

I have been asked to serve, Lord, and I have agreed.

Help me to know my fellow board members: their gifts, their concerns, their lives. I am doing your work, Lord, and your love for me and for them is, above all, personal.

Help me to welcome conflict as a sign of the diversity in this board, as an opportunity to reach for creative solutions. Help me to recognize this diversity as a sign of your capacity to love us all and help me to cherish it as a great strength.

Help me to approach issues with an open, inquiring mind, free from prejudice, with my spirit depending on yours for the strength to make hard decisions.

Help me to listen; to know when and to whom I should listen.

Help me to learn to use my own gifts to promote thorough, thoughtful discussion of important concerns in our Catholic community.

Help me to develop my skills as a peacemaker, to know how and when to mediate, to conciliate, to negotiate.

Help me to enjoy doing your work and to remember your promise: whenever two of us are gathered in your name, you are with us. Sit with me now. Amen.ⁱ

ⁱ From the National Association of Boards of Education, National Catholic Educational Association