## **BEST PRACTICES FOR VIRTUAL BOARD MEETINGS**

# **Zoom and Boards of Specified Jurisdiction**

As Board meetings have gone virtual, the Healey Education Foundation recommends using Zoom to host live video meetings for Board members. Below are recommended tips and best practices for ensuring a secure and productive Zoom meeting.

#### **Prior to your next Board meeting:**

- Ensure all Board members have downloaded Zoom onto their respective devices
  - For added security, all Board members should set up an account; it is free and easy: https://zoom.us/signup
- Ask Board members to prepare for the Zoom meeting
  - o Test their connectivity, video and sound: <a href="https://zoom.us/test">https://zoom.us/test</a>
  - Consider using a headset or headphones plugged into their device to cut down on feedback and background noise
- Check Zoom version to see if updates are needed
  - o In Zoom, click initials in the upper right corner, then click "Check for Updates"
  - Starting May 30, 2020 all users will be required to update before joining meetings

## **Setting up your Zoom meeting:**

Having your meeting set up properly goes a long way to ensure confidentiality

- Use an automatically generated Zoom ID, NOT your personal ID
  - Require a password of attendees
- Only accept authenticated users
  - o This means all Board members and attendees will need a Zoom account
- Set up Waiting Rooms
  - This allows you to review who is logging in prior to them joining the meeting
- Ask attendees to NOT share the meeting invitation with people outside of the attendees list

## **Running your Zoom meeting:**

Establish a professional tone and allow the meeting to operate effectively

- Require that all attendees join by video and keep their cameras turned on
- Once everyone has joined the meeting, lock the room to limit the ability for uninvited guests to join
- Record the session AND let all attendees know it is being recorded
- Consider muting all guests once the meeting starts
- Set up a secondary host:
  - o In the event the primary loses connection, the secondary can transition smoothly
- Be sure anyone who is presenting materials has them downloaded and open on their device
  - o Consider asking all Board members to review a tutorial on how to share their screen

For more tips and best practices, visit Zoom's blog post on Hosting a Virtual Board Meeting