

# MEMO

Attachment I



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**Date:** April 5, 2011  
**To:** Board of Directors  
**From:** Nancy Dawes, Board Chair  
**Subject:** Governance Discussion

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As part of the board process of self-evaluation, I'm attaching a copy of a Girl Scouts of the USA "Council Board Governance Survey" that was completed this past fall. It provides some useful benchmarking data for our board against other Girl Scout boards – I thought it would be worthwhile for our board to read and discuss the findings, relative to our board experience.

The article is lengthy, but I thought it was worthwhile benchmarking data. (If you are pressed for time, I would encourage you to read pages 4-5, 7-9, and 24-25).

As you are reading, please come prepared to discuss:

1. What, if anything, surprised you about the findings in this report?
2. What findings, if any, are consistent or inconsistent with our board experience?
3. Are there ideas on what, if anything, our board could improve upon after reading this report?
4. How does our experience of Policy Governance enable (strong) board performance?