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# SESSION OVERVIEW

- Understanding Fiduciary Responsibilities
- The Due Diligence Process



# UNDERSTANDING FIDUCIARY RESPONSIBILITIES

# WHY IS GOVERNANCE IMPORTANT?

- An effective plan governance program will:
  - Simplify and streamline decision making
  - Reduce risk for the plan and its fiduciaries (which reduces exposure for the university)
  - Increase the likelihood that plan and participant objectives are met
  - Save time when a new committee member is appointed.

# WHO IS A RETIREMENT PLAN FIDUCIARY?

- Anyone who has responsibility for other people's money
- Many <u>actions involved in operating</u> a plan make the person or entity a fiduciary
  - Using discretion in administering and managing a plan or controlling the plan's assets makes that person a fiduciary (to the extent of that discretion or control)
  - Hire, fire or retain service providers
  - Appoints Trustees
  - Serves as a member of the Trustee Board
  - Provides investment advice to the plan or its participants for a fee
- Fiduciary status based upon <u>functions performed</u>, not just a person's title

## COMMITTEE DUTIES

Committee duties can be divided into two categories:

#### Settlor functions

- Settlor functions include duties typically related to plan design, such as establishment of a plan, determination of who the plan will cover, designing the benefit offerings, as well as the creation or termination (or even amendment) of a plan.
- Committee acts on behalf of the Employer, not Plan Participants

#### Fiduciary functions

- Fiduciary functions include selecting/monitoring investments available under plan, hearing and making determinations on claims and appeals, application of plan terms, selection and monitoring of plan service providers (TPA, trustee, investment advisor), interpreting plan provisions
- Committee acts on behalf of the Plan Participants, not the Employer

# RETIREMENT PLAN FIDUCIARIES

- Fiduciaries:
  - Trustees
  - Investment advisers
  - All individuals exercising discretion in administration of the plan
- NOT Fiduciaries:
  - Attorneys, accountants, and actuaries when acting solely in their professional capacities
  - Brokers and recordkeepers are not fiduciaries

## FIDUCIARY DUTIES

- Each fiduciary should be aware of the scope of his/her duties under the plan.
  - Duty of loyalty (exclusive benefit rule)
  - Duty of prudence ("prudent expert" standard)
  - Expert assistance
- Courts are not kind to fiduciaries who claim not to have known about their fiduciary duties.

## **DUTY OF LOYALTY**

#### CUPIA §15-1.1-105

"A trustee shall invest and manage the trust assets solely in the interest of the beneficiaries."



## PRUDENT EXPERT

#### CUPIA §15-1.1-102(a)

• "A trustee shall invest and manage trust assets as a prudent investor would, by considering the purposes, terms, distribution requirements, and other circumstances.... In satisfying this standard, the trustee shall exercise reasonable care, skill, and caution.



"And, while there's no reason yet to panic, I think it only prudent that we make preparations to panic."

## EXPERT ASSISTANCE WHEN NEEDED

The Department of Labor (DOL), as well as a number of courts, has taken the position that fiduciaries who are not qualified to fulfill their duties are legally required to seek assistance from competent sources. The DOL states: "Unless they possess the necessary expertise to evaluate such factors, fiduciaries would need to obtain the advice of a qualified, independent expert."

--[DOL Reg. §2509.95-1(c)(6)]



"Is this really necessary, Your Honor? I'm an expert."

#### DELEGATION

- Delegation is permitted and even encouraged by the law<sup>1</sup>
- It is well recognized that trustees cannot personally perform every necessary function
- Nor can they be expected to possess all of the required expertise
- Trustees do, however, have the **ultimate** fiduciary responsibility
- They can delegate, but they cannot abdicate
- Selecting the persons or agents to perform the functions
- Monitoring the work being performed by the agents
- **Evaluating** the quality and timeliness of the work
- Making appropriate changes if warranted

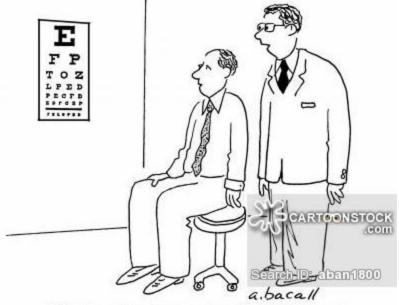
1. Katsaros v. Cody, 744 F. 2<sup>nd</sup> 279 (2<sup>nd</sup> Cir.) (1984)

# PROCESS, NOT HINDSIGHT, IS THE RELEVANT STANDARD

Courts in fiduciary breach cases have consistently stated that the fiduciary does not need to be "right" on every decision, but that the decision making process is what will determine fiduciary liability.

Compliance with the prudent investor rule is determined in light of the facts and circumstances existing at the time of a trustee's decision or action and not

by hindsight.



"Your investments are not working out because your hindsight is 20/20 and your foresight is 20/400."

# SUMMARY – DECISION MAKING PROCESS

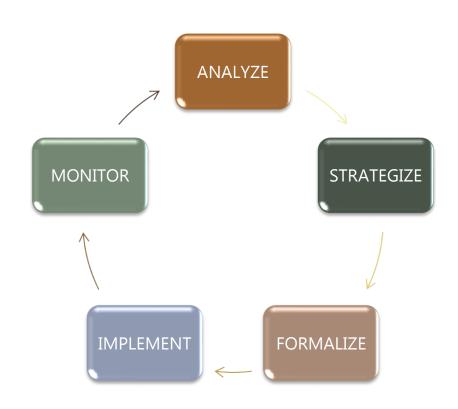
- Establish and communicate who (or which group) performs each plan function
- Be prepared to demonstrate, after the fact, your plan governance and decision making process
- Set up good communications between all plan-related parties, including internal and external
- Do not ignore the information and tools offered by your plan's consultant and service providers to help you fulfill your duties
- Remember, you have an obligation to conduct ongoing monitoring concerning how your plan governance structure is working and whether it can be improved



## THE DUE DILIGENCE PROCESS

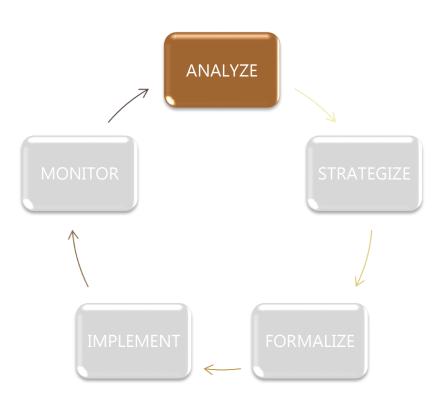
## FOLLOW A PRUDENT PROCESS

- Analyze
- Strategize
- Formalize
- Implement
- Monitor
  - Providers
  - Products Offered
  - Related Expenses



#### STEP 1: ANALYZE

 To implement the process it is necessary to obtain a complete understanding of your current financial position, legal and regulatory constraints, current service providers and professional advisors, and investment risk/return profile.



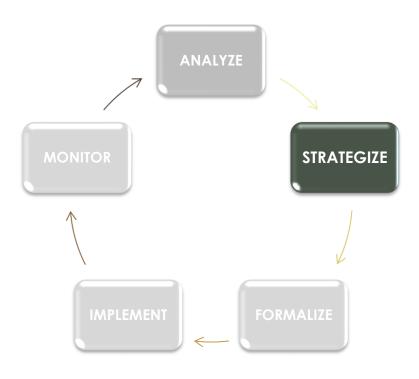
#### **Set Goals and Objectives**

#### Collect, review, and analyze investment files:

- Investment policy statements (IPS);
- Applicable trust documents (including amendments);
- Custodial and brokerage statements so that current fees and expenses for investment management can be analyzed;
- Service agreements with investment management vendors (custodians, money managers, investment consultant, actuary, accountant, or attorney);
- Information on retained money managers, such as a prospectus or similar documents; and
- Any other files pertaining to the management of your plan.

#### STEP 2: STRATEGIZE

Identify the plan design, plan features and investment menu that will be used based on your specific participant base.

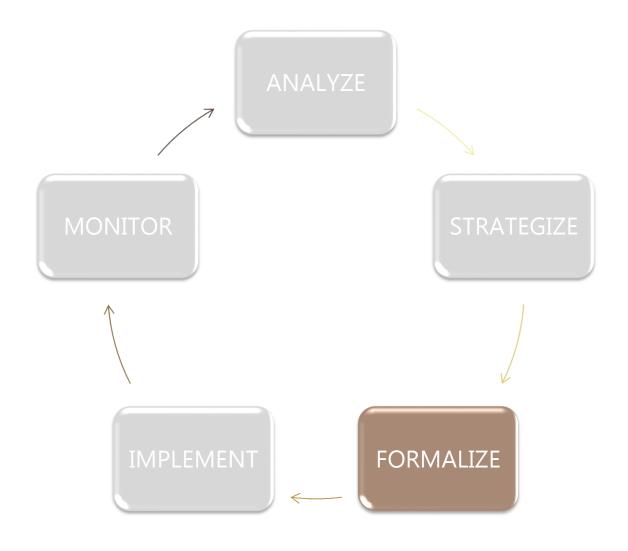


# CREATING AN INVESTMENT MENU



			Menu Coverage							
Fix ed Income			Domestic Equity		Specialty					
		Value	Core	Growth						
Metropolitan West Total Return Bond  Market Index	Large	Dodge & Cox Stock	Vanguard S&P 500 Index	Harbor Capital Appreciation		TIAA-CREF Social Choice Equity				
TIAA Traditional Retirement Choice	Mid	Vanguard Selected Value	Vanguard Mid Cap Index	Janus Enterprise						
	Small	DFA U.S. Small Cap Value	Vanguard Small Cap Index	Voya Small Cap Opportunities						
Cash Equivalents			International Equity							
Vanguard Federal		Value	Core	Growth						
Money Market		American Beacon International	Vanguard Total International Stock Index	American Funds Europacific						
Target Date Portfolios										
	Vanguard Target Retirement Income	Vanguard Target Retirement 2015	Vanguard Target Retirement 2020	Vanguard Target Retirement 2025	Vanguard Target Retirement 2030					
	Vanguard Target Retirement 2035	Vanguard Target Retirement 2040	Vanguard Target Retirement 2045	Vanguard Target Retirement 2050	Vanguard Target Retirement 2055					

## STEP 3: FORMALIZE

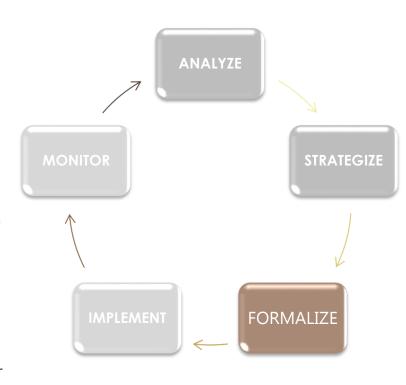


#### STEP 3: FORMALIZE

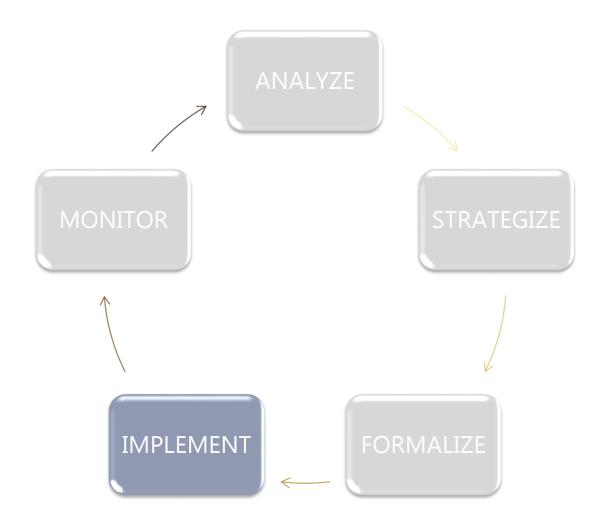
## Document the decision making process through an Investment Policy Statement (IPS)

There are a number of reasons the IPS is important:

- In the case of you serving in a fiduciary capacity, the IPS is the essential document that auditors, regulators, and the courts will review to help determine whether the plan is being prudently managed.
- 2. For the committee, the IPS ensures continuity of the investment strategy and keeps future members from second guessing the actions of the original members.
- 3. The IPS provides a paper trail of practices, and procedures for decisions. The document can serve as critical evidence used in the defenses against litigation or accusations of imprudence.
- 4. The IPS provides a baseline from which to monitor performance of the overall portfolio, as well as the performance of the investment advisor and of money managers.



## STEP 4: IMPLEMENT



## THE ROLE OF THE RECORDKEEPER/ CUSTODIAN



The key entity that needs to be prudently selected at is the recordkeeper/custodian for your plan; a key provider which will greatly impact the quality of your plan.

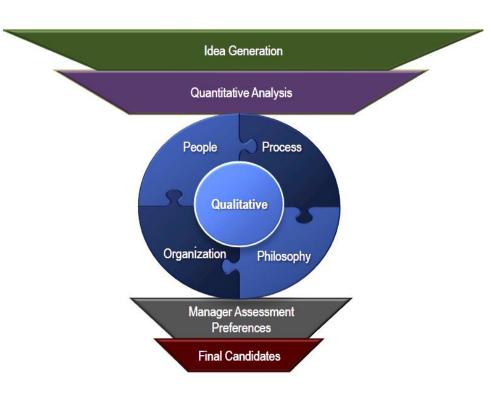
#### The role of the recordkeeper/custodian is to:

- Provide an interface for employees to transact on their accounts;
- Handle all transactions initiated by the participants;
- Value the accounts, provide statements and online access to these values;
- Provide monthly reports that detail transactions, cash flows, securities held and their current value, and change in values;
- Provide a menu of investment options.

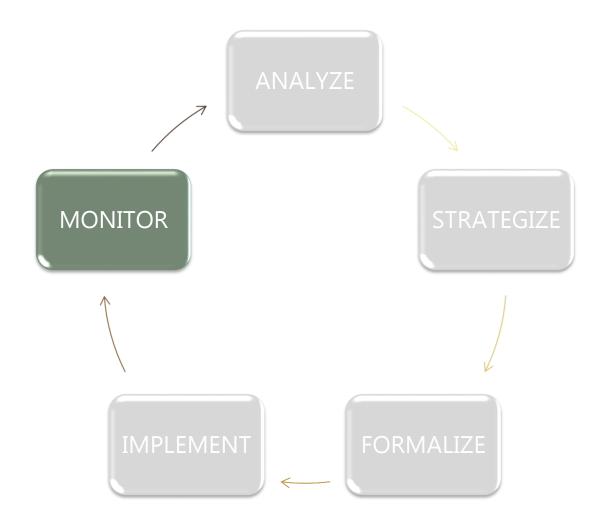
### MANAGER SELECTION

IMPLEMENT

- Completely open universe with no proprietary funds
- Proper benchmarking is key to performance evaluation
- Consistent managers perform better in the long run
- Risk management is integral at every step and on every level
- A complete understanding of the "whys" of performance is crucial
- There is a direct trade-off between performance and fees and expenses



## STEP 5: MONITOR



# PERFORM PERIODIC EXAMINATIONS OF COSTS



## Littleton Public Schools Combined Annual Fee Review

	<u>Plan</u>	Benchmark*
Plan assets as of 12/31/2016	\$ 8,595,900	Similarly Sized
Investment, Recordkeeping and Administrative Costs	0.63%	1.46%
Estimated Total Plan Expenses	0.95%	N/A

		Employer Paid			Employee Paid			Total		
	Provider	Fe	ee (in \$)	Fee (in %)	Fe	e (in \$)	Fee (in %)	Fe	e (in \$)	Fee (in %)
Expense ratio retained by fund manager	Fund Managers				\$	17,904	0.21%	\$	17,904	0.21%
Revenue sharing sent to recordkeeper	TIAA				\$	1,811	0.02%	\$	1,811	0.02%
Gross Investment Management Fees		\$	-	0.00%	\$	19,716	0.23%	\$	19,716	0.23%
Recordkeeping/Administration Fee	TIAA				\$	34,292	0.40%	\$	34,292	0.40%
Gross Recordkeeping and Administrative Fees		\$	-	0.00%	\$	34,292	0.40%	\$	34,292	0.40%
Total Investment, Recordkeeping and Administrative Costs		\$	-	0.00%	\$	54,007	0.63%	\$	54,007	0.63%
Investment Consultant	Innovest	\$	27,775	0.32%				\$	27,775	0.32%
Total Plan Expenses		\$	27,775	0.32%	\$	54,007	0.63%	\$	81,782	0.95%

<sup>\*</sup>The plan's estimated investment, recordkeeping and administrative costs of 0.63% as shown above, compare favorably to 401(k) Source data, a universe of 60 similarly sized 401(k) plans with an average investment, recordkeeping and administrative cost of 1.46%.

This review illustrates estimated plan costs based on available data.

#### **Cost Components: Where are the fees in your plan?**

#### **Defined Contribution Plan Costs**

## **Investment Management Fees**

**Mutual Funds** 

Collective Trust Funds

**Annuities** 

Separately Managed Accounts

#### TIAA

Plan Administration and Recordkeeping Expenses

**Processing** 

Recordkeeping

**Participant Education** 

Trustee/Custodial Services

**Compliance Testing** 

Plan Documents and Amendments

Distribution/Contribution Administration

#### **Innovest**

Investment Consulting/Plan Advice Expenses

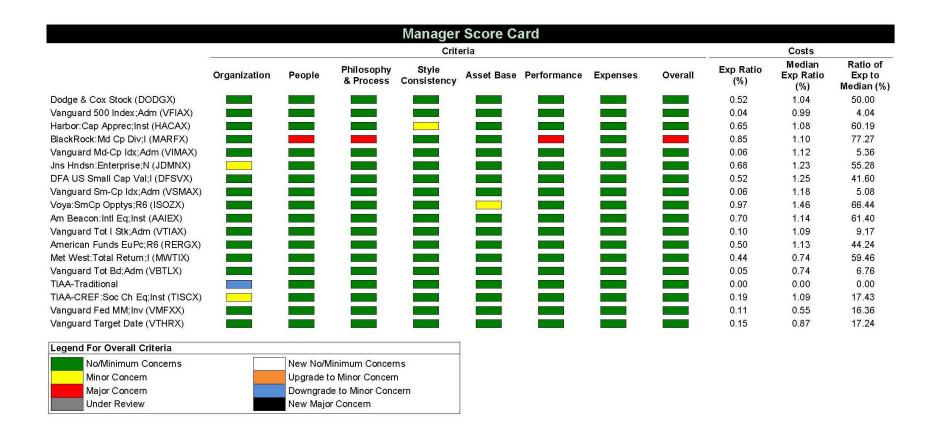
> Performance Monitoring

Due Diligence, Hiring, Retaining and Monitoring of Funds and Investment Managers

Investment Policy Statement Preparation

# PERIODIC INVESTMENT MANAGER REVIEW AND PERFORMANCE EVALUATION





## PERFORM PERIODIC QUALITATIVE REVIEWS



#### FUND INFORMATION PEER GROUP ANALYSIS - IM U.S. Large Cap Value Equity (MF) RISK VS. RETURN (5 YEARS\*) Fund Dodge & Cox 20.0 Family: Fund Inception: 01/04/1965 Portfolio Team Managed 20.0 16.0 Manager: Total \$66,062 Million Assets: 15.0 Turnover: Return (%) 16% Investment Strategy: The Fund invests primarily in a 8.0 diversified portfolio of common stocks. In selecting investments, the Fund invests in companies that, in Dodge & Cox's opinion, appear to be temporarily 4.0 undervalued by the stock market but 0.0 have a favorable outlook for long-term growth. The Fund focuses on the underlying financial condition and prospects of individual companies, -5.0 3.0 6.0 9.0 12.0 15.0 including future earnings, cash flow and Risk (Standard Deviation %) Year 3 5 7 Last dividends. Various other factors. Quarter To Date Year Years Years Years Years Standard including financial strength, economic Return 16.29 (1) Deviation ■ Dodge & Cox Stock 5.75 (50) 18.33 (23) 18.33 (23) 11.08 (4) 13.91 (2) 7.71 (19) condition, competitive advantage, 11.36 ● S&P 500 Value 6.33 (38) 15.36 (59) 15.36 (59) 9.47 (23)14.24 (27) 12.48 (26) 6.80 (45) Dodge & Cox Stock 16.29 quality of the business franchise and S&P 500 Value 14.24 9.80 the reputation, experience and \_\_ Median 13.32 10.36 Median 5.74 16.22 16.22 8.47 13.32 11.52 6.62 competence of a company's management are weighed against valuation in selecting individual securities. CALENDAR YEAR RETURNS AND PERCENTILE RANKINGS 2016 2015 2014 2013 2012 2011 2010 Innovest's Assessment:

21.28 (4)

14.13

17.40 (22)

Dodge & Cox Stock 12/31/17

#### ROLLING 3 YEAR RETURN AND PERCENTILE RANKINGS

Dodge & Cox Stock

IM U.S. Large Cap Value Equity (MF) Median

S&P 500 Value

	3 Years Ending Dec-2017	3 Years Ending Dec-2016	3 Years Ending Dec-2015	3 Years Ending Dec-2014	3 Years Ending Dec-2013	3 Years Ending Dec-2012	3 Years Ending Dec-2011
Dodge & Cox Stock	11.08 (4)	8.55 (8)	14.01 (11)	23.71 (1)	18.04 (5)	9.92 (24)	12.63 (27)
S&P 500 Value	9.47 (23)	8.51 (9)	12.83 (30)	20.40 (33)	15.62 (35)	10.47 (16)	11.55 (39)
IM U.S. Large Cap Value Equity (MF) Median	8.47	6.80	12.23	19.47	14.64	8.54	10.96

10.40 (63)

12.36 (19)

10.88

40.55 (1)

31.99 (56)

32 33

22.01 (2)

17.68 (26)

15 79

-4.08 (69)

-0.48 (31)

-2 38

13.49 (40)

15.10 (24)

12.70

-4.49 (61)

-3.13 (33)

-3.86

Dodge & Cox's collaborative.

fundamentals.

fundamental research approach is

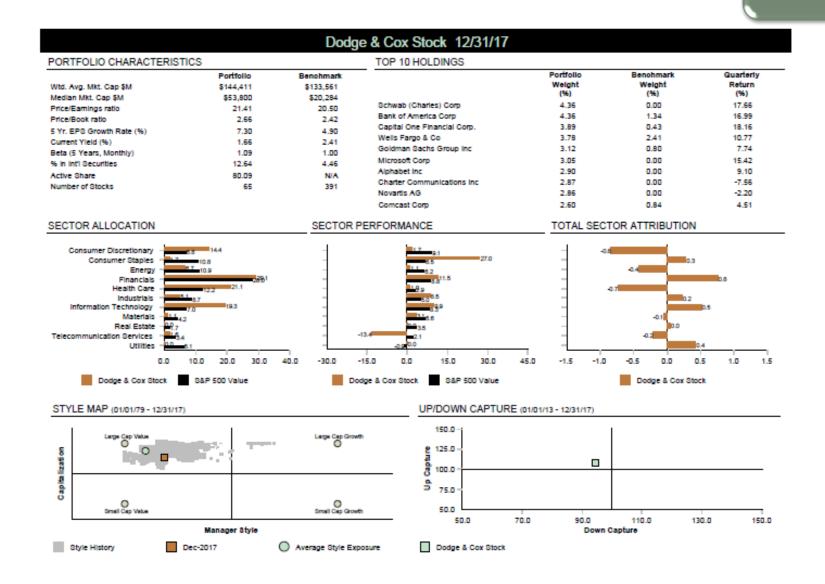
suffer during periods driven by more macroeconomic events, or a disregard for company specific valuation and

expected to generate shareholder value over full market cycles and when markets reward the firm's contrarian style. Conversely, performance may

<sup>\*</sup>If less than 5 years, data is since inception of fund share class.

## PERFORM PERIODIC QUALITATIVE REVIEWS





#### SUMMARY

- Know and understand your fiduciary duties and responsibilities
- Delegate to prudent experts
- Monitor experts and costs
- Document, document, document