

Trustee Report  
October 21, 2019

Help us identify your desired AAO experience!

The first core value of the AAO is “Our members come first”. Each and every time the Board of Trustees discuss and decide on issues before us, we frame these issues from the perspective of the AAO Mission, Purposes, Vision Statement and/or Core Values.

Recently, we have adopted seven parameters related to Tele-dentistry with the purpose of ensuring excellent quality of orthodontic care to each and every patient we “touch”. The parameters include such things as: 1. In person exam; 2. Providing name of treating doctor; 3. Ensuring dental board authority; and etc. These can be found at:

<https://www1.aaoinfo.org/american-association-of-orthodontists-current-teledentistry-parameters/>.

In addition, orthodontists in Michigan received support for the legal matters they face with a DTC company from the AAO legal support fund.

On October 13, 2019, California Governor Gavin Newsom signed Assembly Bill 1519 into law, granting the California Dental Board continued authority to oversee and regulate dental services in the state.<sup>1</sup> The American Association of Orthodontists (AAO) was a registered supporter of the bill and advocated for the bill's passage, believing it addresses several patient health and safety issues that may arise when orthodontic care is delivered through telehealth

At meetings of the BOT, we have carved out some time in our agenda to have a super valuable exercise that we refer to as “Committee of the Whole” (CotW). The sole purpose of this exercise is to generate thoughts and ideas regarding the AAO and how we can make our organization even more outstanding. The ideas that pop up range from member experiences, leadership and representation, advocacy, education, member engagement. Whether the ideas are related to AAO annual session (in Atlanta this year), student loans, AAO awards, composition of the BOT, or webinars, none of these ideas are immediately discussed. They are placed on a list and prioritized for discussion at our following meeting.

With the “Committee of the Whole” in mind, I welcome your comments and suggestions related to any and all aspects of the AAO so that I can bring these ideas to the BOT and introduce them at the next (CotW). This will provide me and you an opportunity to share your thoughts with the BOT. Your idea may be critical in our identifying “Your desired AAO experience”.

Please reach out to me with all of your thoughts and ideas. Contact me by e-mail or telephone. I look forward to speaking with you.

Sincerely,  
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1. <https://www.gov.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/AB-1519-Signing-Message.pdf>