aprio | VS | S❯ SharePoint

Compare Aprio board portal to SharePoint.

Where is the meeting agenda again?
How do I get to our committee notes?

These questions to a board administrator can seem trivial, but they are an indicator of frustration with board communication and consume valuable staff time.

Often the stock answer for organizations using SharePoint is to tell directors to, "Look again at the link, everything is there." But expecting busy board directors to look harder isn't an effective fix.

SharePoint is a powerful file-storing program. Its popularity helps makes Microsoft one of the most profitable businesses on the planet with revenue outranking Google and just behind Apple and Amazon. SharePoint allows organizations to save, organize and share files across teams with solid security. It works for teams in the trenches everyday who get to know folder names, weird labelling conventions and can turn and ask another employee "where do I find x?" But that is not the day-in-the-life of a board director.

Exit interview research shows that board information that is hard to access, is unclear, and does not use technology to engage directors, risks losing good board members.

So what are boards doing to communicate better?

Increasingly boards are shifting to purpose-built board portal software that's cloud based to best engage directors and reduce the administrative burden on teams.

Unlike SharePoint, when directors login to a board portal like Aprio they are greeted with a dashboard like a mission control center with access to meeting dates, contacts, minutes and the next meeting agenda directly reflecting their role on the board.

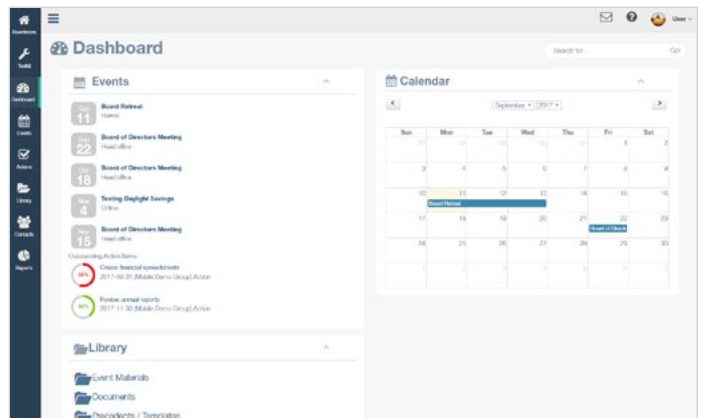### Board perspective on portal technology

Here's the experience of one board that switched SharePoint to Aprio.

"Historically we used SharePoint to store and access board information. It worked, but there was a considerable amount of rework if we had last minute updates. With updates there was always confusion with directors accessing different versions of information. Also, we were doing the basics of providing data security, and access wasn't really convenient for board members, which meant extra administration work.

With our board portal, I notice less confusion as directors prepare for the meeting. With Aprio, it's simpler. Information is organized exactly like a board runs and if you forget your password there's a secure way to instantly request a reset directly from Aprio." – Ruth Shirley, CUES Executive Administrator

SharePoint versus Aprio board portal – for directors:

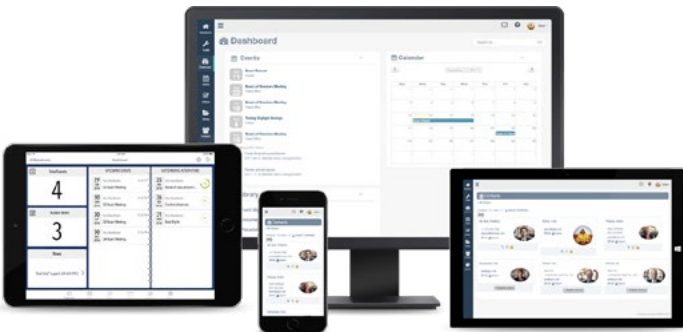**Ease of use** – Aprio makes it intuitive to access critical board information easily with great version control.

Better meeting prep and discussion – Easily annotate documents and share comments to everyone or as a committee or directly to the CEO in advance, so time isn't wasted on background discussions in meetings.

Mobile access made simple – Board members can be diverse, with different preferences on how they wish to work. Aprio lets directors work on a web browser or through their mobile device.

Advanced data security – The Aprio board portal provides multiple layers of security and choice in where you store and protect data. View an IT audit of Aprio security.

✓ Admin-controlled privacy permission settings

✓ Login authentication

✓ Remote purge for lost or stolen devices

SharePoint versus Aprio board portal – **for admins & CEOs:**

Board administrators and CEOs experience the most dramatic difference in efficiency between a board portal and SharePoint. Aprio provides automated meeting agenda creation with links to right-version, relevant documents and streamlines gathering and instantly publishing board information.

Here's how administrators commonly describe the gains in making the switch from SharePoint.

"With Aprio, it's so much easier to complete the board book process. Having our information in Aprio makes changes easy, and an email quickly updates board members. Simpler meeting preparation and directors having easy access to accurate, current information have improved our board efficiency dramatically. Directors are more engaged, which shows in better meeting attendance." – Ruth Shirley, CUES Executive Administrator

Take a deeper look at the alternative to SharePoint

With competition to recruit and keep good directors, and more time pressure on board administrators with expanding governance tasks, more and more progressive boards are shifting away from SharePoint.

Want to talk with Aprio customers who have made the switch from SharePoint? Ask us for references.

Find out more

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Aprio makes good governance simple and affordable. The Aprio board portal helps organizations large and small to efficiently run board meetings, keep directors up to date, and keep information secure. Aprio provides premium features without premium pricing, all delivered with unmatched service. Visit aprioboardportal.com to learn more.