Anser Charter School Strategic Plan

History

When Anser Charter School was granted a charter by the Boise School District in September 1998, the school's founders set their sights on the future. The focus of the school was to open and operate an exemplary school based on Expeditionary Learning-Outward Bound design principles. In its first decade, Anser staff, parents, and Board built a school with a unique curriculum and a reputation for academic success, service to

the community, and strong character. With the educational infrastructure firmly in place, the Anser community moved to strengthen the school's financial underpinnings and organizational infrastructure. Anser begins its second decade in a new facility, bringing new opportunities and challenges which are reflected in the strategic direction for years 15-20.

Vision Statement

Anser's vision is to educate the whole child in a collaborative learning community where individuals are inspired to achieve their academic potential, be self-motivated and feel a sense of connection and responsibility to the world.

Mission Statement

Anser's mission is to foster learning that imagines a better world and works toward realizing it; set high academic standards; promote creativity, discovery, reflection and balance; embrace diversity; and use developmentally appropriate practices and real-world experiences to educate within a climate of collaboration, community, character, and compassion.

Strategic Plan Implementation and Review

Anser's Strategic Plan will be updated and approved annually. The Board will annually review presentations from the Education Director and Organization Director which will include analyses of student growth and achievement, student demographics, financial performance, and annual goal attainment, using the data provided to inform the adoption of goals for the following school year.

Anser Strategic Direction

(Operational Years 15 - 20)

The Anser Board, staff, and parents will position the school for long term sustainability.

Five major initiatives support this overall objective. The Anser Board is responsible for establishing strategic direction and monitoring progress. Family Council represents the voice of the parent community, communicating needs and suggestions to the Board. The Anser staff provides professional support for the initiatives. This document assists the staff in clarifying organizational priorities.

| Initiative #1 | Initiative #2 | Initiative #3 | Initiative #4 | Initiative #5 | | | |
|--|---------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|--|--|--|
| Provide a rigorous | Maintain Anser's facility | Provide the financial | Manage school size | Promote the vitality and | | | |
| curriculum that produces | in a manner true to | resources necessary to | consistent with Anser's | integrity of the | | | |
| high academic | Anser's mission and | sustain Anser. | long term vision for | organizational | | | |
| achievement, strong | vision, while | | growth while meeting | infrastructure, including | | | |
| character, and service to | maximizing use of the | | the needs of current and | its culture, community, | | | |
| others. | asset. | | future families and | and compliance with all | | | |
| | | | balancing | applicable laws. | | | |
| | | | fiscal/educational needs. | | | | |
| | Responsible parties/individuals | | | | | | |
| Education Director | Facilities Committee | Finance Committee | Education Director | Organization Director | | | |
| Instructional Staff | Organization Director | Resource Development | Instructional Staff | Education Director | | | |
| Education Committee | | Committee | Organization Director | Governance Committee | | | |
| Resource Development | | Facilities Committee | Family Council | Family Council | | | |
| Committee | | Organization Director | Marketing Committee | Executive Committee | | | |
| | | Marketing Committee | Resource Development | Marketing Committee | | | |
| | | | Committee | | | | |
| | | | Executive Committee | | | | |
| | | | Ed. Committee | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |
| Each goal is followed by the responsible parties. | | | | | | | |
| OD= Organization Directo | | ED = Education Dire | ector IS = Instru | ctional Staff | | | |
| Bd = Anser Board | | | | arketing Committee | | | |
| Dev = Resource Development Committee | | FC = Family Council | | EdC=Education Committee | | | |
| Exec = Executive Committee | | Fin = Finance Comm | | Gov = Governance Committee | | | |
| Exec - Executive Committee 1 in - 1 mance Committee 300 - Governance Committee | | | | | | | |

| On- Going Goals | | | | | | |
|--|--|---|---|---|--|--|
| Initiative #1 | Initiative #2 | Initiative #3 | Initiative #4 | Initiative #5 | | |
| Create a cohesive process for implementing and supporting high quality expedition products and projects. (ED, IS, EdC) Implement strategies and processes to facilitate unlimited access to education for all students. (ED, IS) Regularly assess and evaluate educational program, identify areas of improvement and develop plans to address those areas. (ED, IS, EdC) Regularly assess alignment with Idaho Common Core. (ED, EdC, IS) Provide professional development opportunities that support teacher growth and student achievement. (ED, EdC) Student Growth and Achievement will be measured and reported annually to the Board (ED,IS) | Review and prioritize future capital projects with the input from Board and Staff. (Fac, OD) Manage facility rentals to meet/exceed revenue projections. (OD, Fac) Address growth and facility improvement needs and objectives of school annually, e.g., storage, parking, etc. (OD, Fac, Fin) Identify opportunities for increasing energy efficiency and prolonging useful life of the building systems. (Fac) Maintain facility to avoid unforeseen and unbudgeted maintenance and capital expenditures. (OD, Fac) | Establish ways to measure financial success for the organization. (Fin) Identify additional grant funding opportunities for facilities and educational programs. (ED, OD, Fac, Dev) Track donors and cultivate new ones. (OD, Dev) Identify and develop community, educational and charitable partnerships, both tactical and strategic, e.g., Garden City, BSU, BSD, ELOB preschools. (ED, OD, Dev, Exec) Manage US Bank Debt. (OD, Fin, Exec) | Provide opportunities to educate prospective and current families about Anser, vocabulary, philosophy and expectations. (ED, OD, FC, Mktg) Continue measuring parent or customer satisfaction. (Mktg) Provide collateral materials for student recruitment. (Mktg) Assure adequate parent involvement/voice on all Anser committees. (FC, Gov, Exec) Review annually potential for future growth or replication. (Bd, ED, OD, Exec) Regularly assess potential additions or improvements to existing programs, including music, C3, sports, Service, SOS. (ED, IS, EdC,) | Update complete skills and interest assessment and database for board members and parents. (OD, Gov) Update long term goals to assure sustainability of the organization. (Exec, Bd) Assure parent voice and involvement on all ANSER committees. (FC, Gov.) Regularly assess and identify educational choices in the community. (ED, OD, Exec, Mktg) Assess and address strategies for promoting diversity. (Gov, ED, OD, IS) Ensure the financial health of Anser to achieve academic excellence (Fin, OD,Exec) Strive to provide competitive salaries for employees now and in the future (Fin, Exec, OD, ED) Review/revise/add/remove school policies for accuracy, relevance and breadth of exposure. (Gov, ED, OD, Exec) | | |

| 2016-2017 Goals | | | | | |
|--|---------------|---|---|--|--|
| Initiative #1 | Initiative #2 | Initiative #3 Initiative #4 | | Initiative #5 | |
| Anser student's ISAT results will meet or exceed the State and Boise School District. ISAT results (ED,IS, EdC) Evaluate Junior High Recess opportunities (ED, OD, IS) Implement 4 year graduation plan for students (ED,IS) | | Develop financial reporting that meets the needs of the board and lenders. (Fin, OD) Create a Salary Schedule for Administrators (Fin, ED,OD) Assess the long term impacts of the Career Ladder (Fin, OD) | Communicate the value of Anser's current size, and any future plans to current and prospective families (ED,OD, Mktg) Update the Anser website (Mktg, OD) Perform marketplace analysis and provide collateral materials as needed for marketing purposes (Mktg) | Develop Criteria for awarding Teacher Scholarship (EdC, ED, IS) Codify and align the process for evaluation of the Education Director and Organization Director (EdC, Gov, Exec.) Update the Employee Handbook and provide staff training in September. (Gov.) | |

ANSER Leadership 2016-2017

| Family Council | Finance Committee | Facilities Committee | Resource Development | Marketing Committee | Governance Committee | Education Committee | Executive Committee |
|--|---|---|--|---|--|--|--|
| | | | Committee | | | | |
| Provide a conduit for parental input into school-wide policies, ongoing development and governance. Offer an impartial voice to staff/Board on concerns parents bring to them. Conduct activities for families and link families to activities/volunteer opportunities. | Oversee fiscal management of the organization. | Provide for maintenance of the ANSER facility | Assist staff with planning and implementing fund raising, grant acquisition and partnership development. | Help ANSER communicate who they are to donors and potential donors; parents and potential parents; and educators. | Oversee recruitment, retention, and training of school volunteer leadership, including the Board and committees and oversee Anser policies and procedures. | Oversee education staffing and curricula related matters. | Transact the business of the Board for all actions delegated to it by the Board. Provide leadership on all ANSER issues. |
| Brian Coffey Cody Human Kris Hilvers Laura Kadyan Laura Nelson Laura Olivotto Patrick Sullivan Shannon Campbell Tamara Reames Meg Omel | Maridee Lemieux* Lora Breen* Heather. Dennis** Tiffany Keeley** | Ad Hoc, to be assigned when necessary to meet the goals of the Anser Board. | Stacy Slattery* Angie Temple* Brenda Marosvari* Heather Dennis** | Melinda. Neely* Matt McCarter* Heather Dennis** | Pam Howland* Leslie Brown* Nichoel Spencer* Heather Dennis** | Maggie Chase* Christina Bruce Bennion* Nichoel Spencer* Staci Shaw* Michelle Dunstan** | Ryan Zelinsky* Lora Breen* Maridee Lemieux* Ex officio, non voting Michelle Dunstan** Heather Dennis** |

*Board member

**Staff member

Chair is bolded

Each goal is followed by the responsible party (ies).

OD= Organization Director

Bd = Anser Board

Dev = Resource Development Committee

Exec = Executive Committee

ED = Education Director

 $Fac = Facilities \ Committee$

FC = Family Council

Fin = Finance Committee

IS = Instructional Staff

Mktg = Marketing Committee EdC=Education Committee

Gov = Governance Committee