



ALZAR
SCHOOL

ANNUAL REPORT 2017-2018

*Alzar School
PO Box 1609
Cascade, ID 83611
833.862.5927
www.alzarschool.org*

THE WORLD AWAITS...



The mission of Alzar School is to educate and facilitate the leadership development of high school students.

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“*My favorite part of the semester was the expedition in Patagonia. It was there that I felt the most connected to the earth, the happiest, and the freest!*

- Hannah Masling, Spring 2018

I've never lived somewhere this beautiful, and I've never felt so free while taking such wondrous adventures.

- Meredith Whitley, Spring 2018”





FROM THE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS



During year six, Alzar School's enrollment continued to grow, serving 66 students in the 2017-2018 academic year. Throughout the year, the construction from the Buildout Campaign was completed and the students and staff were able to move into the Headwaters Building. The new large group meeting space in the Patagonia Learning Center and teacher work rooms were a marked improvement. The Dean of Students position supported, by the weekend Residential Life Faculty position, greatly improved the quality of our residential programming. The transformative experiences of Alzar School continued to inspire support from alumni and their families, and we were nearly able to reach our fundraising goal for the year. The school expanded its Advisory Committee and Board of Directors by adding the expertise of several alumni parents.

Alzar School continues to lead in the field of education. Sean Bierle was selected to participate in the Klingenstein Center, a program for select Heads of Schools at Columbia University. Sean spent two weeks with some of the heads of top independent schools and the cohort was asked to wrestle with the purpose and implementation of independent school education, in hopes that their leadership will impact all of the teachers and students in their schools. After six years as a semester school, we are seeing our first semester alumni finish college and many others have incorporated a full semester or year abroad into the college studies. High school alumni are implementing CLP projects across the country. For example, "Fashion with Compassion" was a prom fashion show that provided dresses for students who couldn't afford them at an event for more than 100 people. The school is building leaders with awareness of the needs of their communities and the skills to take action. We look forward to being a part of meaningful education for these inspiring teens for years to come.

- Sean & Kristin Bierle

OUR SIX FOUNDATIONS

Alzar School accomplishes our mission through the integration of our “Six Foundations.” Academics and Cultural exchange overlap as students complete conversational challenges. Students learn the power of servant leadership through our interactions with others. Outdoor adventure cultivates an appreciation of the natural world.



1

ACADEMICS

Rigorous Classes: AP US History, AP English Language & Composition, AP Biology, Environmental Science and Biology, Harkness Discussions & Demonstrations of Learning.

2

LEADERSHIP TRAINING

“10 Elements of Leadership,” LOD experiences on expeditions and on campus. Major student leadership experiences in Chile. Mentor meetings. Writing the CLP plan.

3

OUTDOOR ADVENTURE

Rafting and kayaking on the Payette, Salmon, Fuy, Baker, and Petrohue Rivers. Backpacking in the Trinity Alps, Patagonia, and the Owyhee Canyonlands. Skiing/snowboarding at Tamarack & Brundage Resorts. Winter camping.



4

CULTURAL EXCHANGE

Students from around the globe, including 2 from Chile. Learning to dance cueca, expeditions with Chilean students from Los Escualos. Empanadas, sopapillas, and so much more.

5

SERVICE LEARNING

Working on the perimeter trail on campus. Serving the community through cook crew. Planting trees and revegetating campus.

6

ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

Recycling program on campus. Heating the yurts with wood split by students. Hot showers thanks to solar water heaters. Restoring the riverbank on campus. Using and maintaining the school’s compost system.

THE HIGHLIGHTS

In the 2017-2018 year, Alzar School notably achieved:

- Most students in a school year (65)
- Opened the new Headwaters Building for classes, offices, and workspaces.
- Had 276 applicants for the 2016-2017 year.
- Offered over \$220,700 in financial aid.
- Had 7 courses approved as "AP" by the College Board, and offered PSAT and AP testing on campus.
- Continued the "Challenge for Leaders" program and raised over \$90,000 to support the Empowering Leaders Annual Fund.

This was another strong year for Alzar School, and we look forward to building on our success in the coming year, with efforts focusing on refinement and sustainability.

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YEAR IN REVIEW 2017-2018 PROGRAMS



The semester program continues to be the primary focus of the school, though we are now expanding into summer programming and will have our second program of Roam students on the trails and rivers of central Idaho. We continue to run expeditions in Patagonia, Chile at the southern end of the Carretera Austral, with classes resuming in the Lake District of Chile.

- Academically, the school's completed its five year accreditation review, receiving exemplary scores. The review committee noted that, "the school has developed an effective culture that develops a personalized, life-changing experience for each student."
- The new Dean of Students, Michael Ervin, stepped up as the primary contact for student issues over the course of a semester, and raised the bar for communication with families and created stages of development for the residential life program.
- Associate Director of Expeditions and Risk Management, Justin Kleberg, streamlined expedition systems, and supported staff in meeting the high expectations we have for for outdoor programming.
- The "Challenge for Leaders" program gave staff and alumni opportunities to raise money for the school. Besides co-founders Sean Bierle and Kristin Bierle's challenge, two alumni and staff members completed challenges, raising over \$22,000.

ALZAR SCHOOL'S SIX FOUNDATIONS



ACADEMICS



LEADERSHIP
TRAINING



ENVIRONMENTAL
STEWARDSHIP



OUTDOOR
ADVENTURE



CULTURAL
EXCHANGE



SERVICE
LEARNING

YEAR IN REVIEW

ADMISSIONS & ENROLLMENT

For the 2017-2018 school year, the Director of Admissions and the Admissions and Marketing Associate stayed quite busy while on the road. Presenting at 43 different schools across the country (9 more than our previous cycle), conducted 46 lunch booths (7 more than our previous cycle), hosted 20 evening functions in conjunction with our alumni families (more than double from 9 of the previous cycle), and remained consistent with the number of admin meetings and educational fair opportunities. Over the summer leading up to our application launch and travel season we also made changes to our reference requirements, essay questions, and interview rubrics.

Despite these efforts, we are experiencing an across the board decline in our admissions metrics from the previous cycle. To date (6/11/18) we have a 4.4% decline in started applications (192 vs 201), a 11.3% decline of submitted applications (86 vs 97), and a 13.2% decline in enrolled students (46 vs 53).

We still have confidence that we will see growth in our enrolled numbers for our upcoming Spring 2019 semester but are seeing slower growth for our fall cohort. Our goal is enroll 30 students for our Fall semester and 35 for spring.

“Alzar School gave me the best four months of my life where I grew as a person and gained so many new friends.”
- Gigi George



YEAR IN REVIEW

FUNDRAISING & DEVELOPMENT

Alzar School raises funds to make its programs a reality for a diverse group of students. The school awarded over \$222,700 in financial aid to students across the country and internationally.

For 2017-2018, the Advancement goal was originally \$150,000 towards the Empowering Leaders Annual Fund. To reach this goal, the school celebrated its program for Valley County students with an event in May. The Challenge for Leaders campaign also contributed to that effort, with five alumni and staff completing individual challenges. In total, the school raised \$90,880 towards the annual fund. Additionally, the Fall 2017 group of families contributed \$52,843 towards the completion of the Rio Claro Warehouse.

“*Alzar School was a challenging experience with incredible outcomes and rewards.*”

*-McKenzie Stephens,
Spring 2018*





DONOR RECOGNITION

Valedictorian \$2000+

Amanda and Ronald Thompson
 Anna and Mark Smith
 Crayton and Louisa Walters
 David and Jackie Radcliffe
 James and Emily McIntyre
 John William Jackson Fund
 Karen and Barry Sullivan
 Kelly and Rich Lytle
 Kevin Arrien
 Kim and Scott Singletary
 Larry and Tricia Bierle
 Lydia and Christopher Skardon
 Marianella Paul de Alvarez and
 Alberto Alvarez
 Mark and Kristina Pickard
 Mark and Christine Nagle
 Nicole Daniel
 Pam Gillette
 Perkin Fund
 Robert and Patti Lapeyre
 Sean and Kristin Bierle
 Tucker and Mark Schrage

Salutatorian \$1000+

Adrienne and Peter Becker
 Rockefeller Group International
 AIRE
 Cailin O'Brien-Feeney
 Dennis and Kendra Coleman
 Edward and Phebe Hibshman
 Eric Torrese
 Gregg and Sue Slager
 Gregory and Lisa Glesinger
 Jean Bierle
 Joanna Wolff and Scott
 Schneiderman
 John and Anne Olden
 John and Jill Thompson
 Katie Andrews
 Kay and Youngho Kim
 Kelly Malone and Ron Helmuth
 Kim Tanabe
 Merrill Weyerhaeuser and Patrick
 Welly
 Midas Gold
 Tina and Glenn Michael

Dean's List \$500+

Alan Hamilton and Mary Nielson
 Alex and Karen Rogow
 Alix Schlesinger and Eric Jacobs
 Kaie Wellman and Kevin de
 Garmo
 Kathi and Worth Saunders
 Katie and Rick Friedel
 Keller and William Torrey
 Kimberly and Robert Belvin
 Peggy and Mac Eysenbach
 Robin and Randel Patty
 Sarah Jessup and Maggie
 Rosenthal
 Ted Stimpson and Nicole Zungoli
 Tessa Greer

Honor Roll \$250+

Arnold Aviation
 Brundage Mountain Resort
 David and Bettina Fiore
 Herk and Colleen Cole
 Ruth Barry
 Sarah Holloway
 Scott Morris
 Holly and Patrick Chesser
 Jack Olson
 Jennifer and Chris Aramburu
 Joseph Deffner and Sarah Martel
 Michael and Margaret Henbest
 NRS
 Shauna and Mike Arnold
 Shore Lodge
 Skip Armstrong

Graduate \$100+

10 Barrel Brewing
 44 Degrees North
 Anita Cussler and Max Silverson
 Asana Climbing
 Backcountry Chiropractic
 Bill Thomas and Jack Rubin
 Bogus Basin Mountain
 Recreation Area
 Boise Escape
 Cascade Aquatic Center
 Cascade Cultural Arts Center
 Cascade Golf Course
 Cascade True Value
 Cameron Weiner
 Chang Won and Minhee Suh
 Cheap Thrills Rentals
 Costco Boise
 D&B Supply

Esther Mulnick and John
 Watkins

Grand Targhee Resort
 Granite Excavation
 Gravity Sports
 Heather Getzloff
 Idaho Botanical Gardens
 Idaho Shakespeare Festival
 Idaho Steelheads
 Immersion Research
 Jennifer and John Evans
 Joe and Lauren Stuckey
 John and Victoria West
 Jug Mountain Ranch
 Jump Time Meridian
 Kelly and Michael McLeod
 Ken and Sharon Anderson
 Kent Ford
 Lakeview Chevron
 Leanne Sotak
 Les and Susan Bechdel
 Mark and Jane Epstein
 May Hardware
 McCall Jewelry
 McCall Pet Outfitters and
 Supply
 McCall Sports Exchange
 Nantahala Outdoor Center
 Nikcole Cunningham
 Opera Idaho
 Proof Eyewear
 Remington's
 River Gear Cascade
 Roaring Springs
 Roger and Lisa Cates
 Rustic Gemstone
 Salmon River Brewery
 Spa del Sol
 Stacey Cakes
 Stephanie Novellas
 Steve and Joan Riggers
 Tamarack Resort
 Tea Leaves-N-Coffee Beans
 Tess Lipsky
 Trinity Therapeutic
 Turin and Kyle Dickman
 Tuscanos Brazilian Grill
 Unwind Body Spa
 Utah Jazz Basketball
 Wahooz Family Fun Zone
 Whitewater Expeditions
 Will and Stephanie Day
 Sally Vaughan
 Zoo Boise

“

There are so many favorite moments, I can't narrow it down, but all of them are shared with others at the school who made this experience great (including the awesome teachers)!

-Jack Collison, Spring 2018

My Alzar experience was an insane journey of community, self and love for new things like kayaking, backpacking and living in yurts.

-Shirly Hu, Fall 2017

”



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Alzar School is governed by a volunteer Board of Directors and supported by an Advisory Committee comprised of experts and supporters from across the country. Bylaws, minutes, and other pertinent documents can be found online.

NAME	POSITION ON BOARD	OCCUPATION/EMPLOYER	RESIDENCE
Dr. Kim Tanabe	President	Physician, St. Luke's	Garden Valley, ID
Katherine Andrews	Vice-President	Physicians Assistant, St. Luke's	Boise, ID
Cailin O'Brien-Feeney	Treasurer	Local Recreation Advocacy Manager, Outdoor Industry Alliance	Boise, ID
Shauna Arnold	Board Member	Massage Therapist, Parent Representative	Cascade, ID
Tucker Schrage	Board Member	Former Teacher, Parent Representative	Alexandria, VA
Kristin Bierle	Ex-officio member	Executive Director, Alzar School	McCall, ID
Sean Bierle	Ex-officio member	Head of School, Alzar School	McCall, ID



6.1.18 Balance Sheet

Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$356,633
Other Current Assets	\$911,479
Property, Building, & Equipments	\$4,824,765
Construction in Progress	\$1,787,699
Total Assets	\$7,867,370
Current Liabilities	\$269,667
Umpqua Loan	\$703,823
Total Liabilities	\$973,490
Retained Earnings	\$3,004,311
Unrestricted Net Assets	\$4,041,849
Net Income	-\$155,921
Total Equity	\$6,890,239
TOTAL LIABILITES & NET ASSETS	\$7,863,730

