

Strategic Plan

Dare to Be Extraordinary



As we soon approach the 125th year of exceptional education at Asheville School, we are invigorated by the opportunities and plans ahead of us to sharpen our focus, harness our resources, and embark on the School’s next five years and beyond. Those opportunities and plans are first and foremost aimed at further elevating the student experience and deepening Asheville School’s excellence in realizing our mission.

Over the last two years, the Board of Trustees, the School’s leadership and faculty, and countless Blues alumni, parents, and supporters have engaged in deeply meaningful work to examine and renew the School’s vision, mission and values, and then create a strategic plan to bring those important statements to fruition. In June of 2022, the Board of Trustees approved the new vision, mission and values. In September of 2023, they approved the new strategic plan which will serve as our primary guide for the next five years.

We are profoundly grateful to the two Ad Hoc Committees and the Faculty and Staff Committees that engaged in hours of discussion and dialogue around critical components of our School, as well as a deep dive in better understanding the complexities of the ever-evolving world

of education. The strategic planning process included an environmental assessment and data analysis phase which allowed for data-driven discussion and questioning and enabled the committees and school leadership to challenge previous assumptions and recalibrate our focus.

While we continue to hold tight to core values and foundational traditions that help bind this community together across generations, it is equally critical for us to evolve, adapt, and continually improve to both remain competitive in the marketplace and to truly achieve our mission. In the end, these committees, school leadership, and the Board of Trustees sought to grapple with and answer the central question of how to blend key historical and contextual factors to design a desirable educational experience of supreme value that families and students are both drawn to and invested in while remaining true to key tenets of who we are. We feel that this plan does just that.

We are excited to share this plan with our community of Blues and to partner with each of you moving forward to realize these important aspirations to fulfill our mission and provide a unique, impactful, and formative educational experience for all students in our care.

Anthony H. Sgro, Ed.D. '84
Head of School



Tommy Shores, Jr. '85, P '20, '23
Chair, Board of Trustees

VISION

A global community pursuing lives of meaning and service.

MISSION

Asheville School is a diverse and nurturing community that challenges and supports the mind, body, and spirit of our students by developing their resilience, intellect, and character.

VALUES

- Personal Excellence
- Inclusive Community
- Perseverance and Resilience
- Life-long Curiosity
- Spiritual Reflection

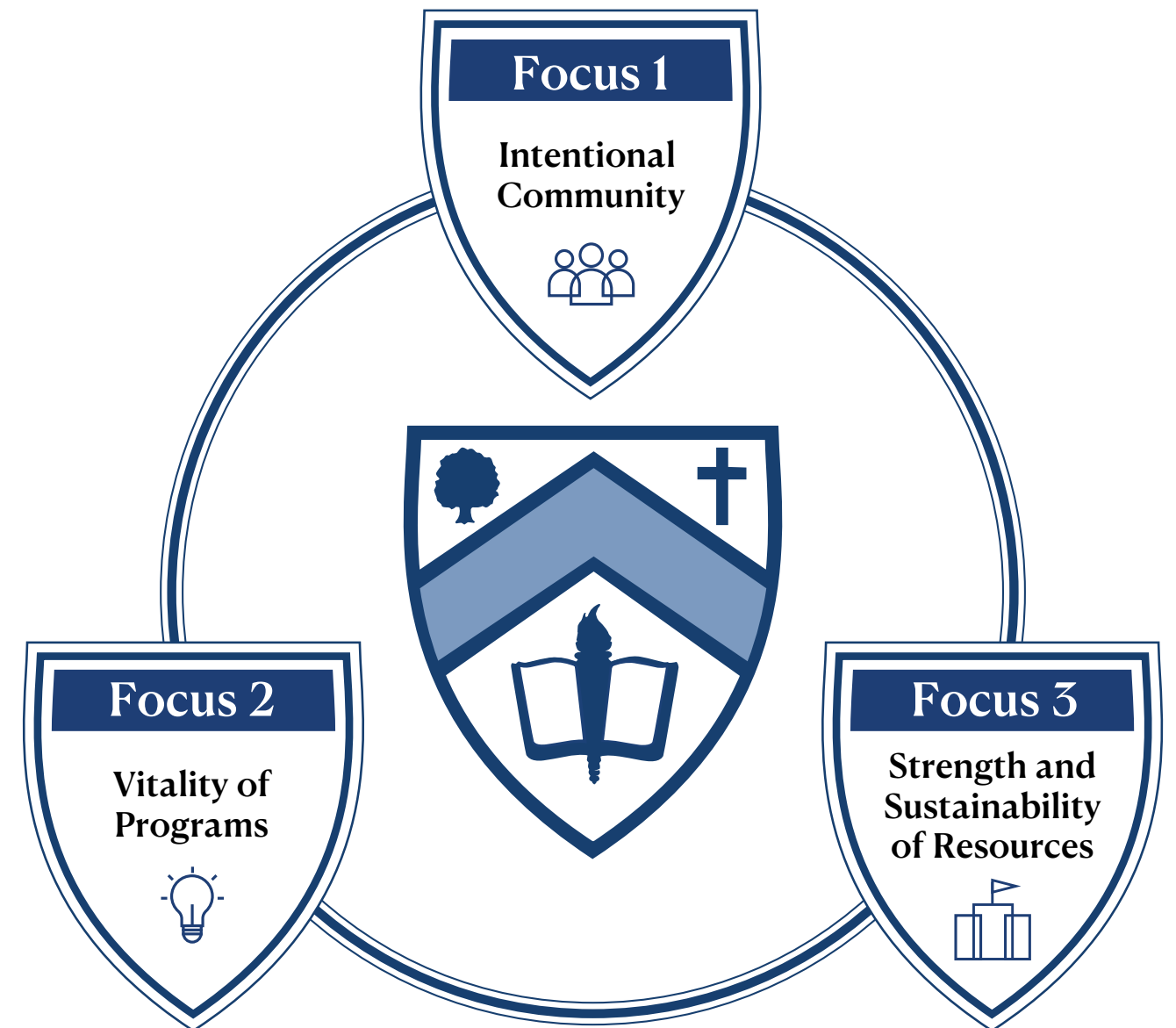


Overarching Strategic Goal

For the next five years, the Board of Trustees and Asheville School leadership will aspire towards:

A student experience that fosters joy, ownership, enduring intellectual and interpersonal skills, and a strong sense of connection to the community and the School.

We will achieve this strategic goal with focus on these three key areas:



FOCUS 1

Intentional Community

We are committed to creating a joy-filled community that meaningfully connects with each other and our campus to grow mentally, physically, and spiritually. To do this, we will dedicate the time and resources needed to attract and retain students, faculty, and staff who actively contribute to and are passionate about our curricular and co-curricular programs.



Areas of Impact:

- Diversity of student body: ever-increasing access.
- Belonging: finding a place to “hang your hat” and thriving through connection.
- Commitment to student growth and success in all areas of school life.
- Student experience.
- Focus on well-being.
- Diversity of faculty & staff.
- Professional development and mentorship for growth, exploration, and inspiration.
- Intentional work-life balance for employees.



FOCUS 2

Vitality of Programs

The Asheville School curricular and co-curricular programs will be assessed and designed to ensure that our students will develop an ever-deepening life-long curiosity for their areas of interest, support their journeys to personal excellence, and graduate with a comprehensive set of applicable skills that will enable them to continue to succeed wherever they may go from here. We will refine and deliver an academic and co-curricular program and experience that is relevant and instructive for the 21st century learner.



Areas of Impact:

- Pedagogy and practices to meet needs of current and future students.
- Choice and exploration in the academic journey.
- Arts programming to ignite and grow passions and inspiration.
- Competency and skill development throughout the student experience.
- Mountaineering experience for both recreational and competitive programming.
- Competitive athletics fostering student development, pride, and connection.
- Development of programs of distinction.
- Student spiritual reflection and growth, both academically and personally.



FOCUS 3

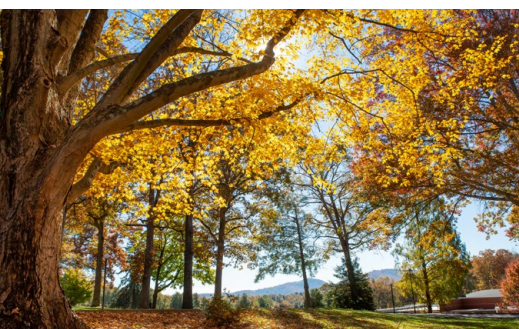
Strength & Sustainability of Resources

Asheville School was founded over 124 years ago and continues to thrive today. To ensure long-term vitality and sustainability and provide necessary resources, infrastructure, and facilities for current and future students, we are committed to implementing financial programs that will increase the strength and sustainability of our School for years to come.



Areas of Impact:

- Campus spaces that enhance the student experience.
- Endowed student programming to ensure ever-evolving, innovative, student experiences.
- Renovation of visual and performing arts facilities.
- Connection and stewardship aligning supporter passions with school's needs.
- Additional faculty housing to attract and retain the very best educators to serve our students.
- Financial aid to increase access to the Asheville School experience.
- New dining hall, student center, and learning support spaces.





The collective dedication and combined efforts of the Board of Trustees, the Ad Hoc Committees of the Board, the Faculty/Staff Committees, and our consultant, Tucker Branham '93, deserve sincere acknowledgment for their pivotal role in shaping the renewed vision, mission, values and strategic plan for Asheville School. Dr. Branham's expertise, coupled with the coordinated efforts of the Board and Committees, has laid a solid foundation for our institution's continued success. We thank the following people for their steadfast commitment and collaborative spirit; their hard work and strategic vision underscore their commitment to ensuring Asheville School's enduring legacy and excellence:

VISION, MISSION, VALUES COMMITTEES

Ad Hoc Committee of the Board

Board Members

Walter Cox | 1972, P '06
 Tommy Shores | 1985, P '20, '23
 Scott Shealy | 1984, P '19, '21
 Betsy Ewing | 1993
 Dexter Perry | 1987, P '22
 Lara Glass | P '19, '24
 Morgan Warth | 2005

Faculty/Admin Members

Anthony Sgro | 1984
 B Cornog
 Burt Gordon | 1986
 Joe Lambert
 Radar Onguetou

Faculty & Staff Committee

Jacob O'Brien	Maggie Frelinghuysen 2008
Megan Grant	Amy McCuin
Carl Boland 1999	Nate Sell
McNair Johnson	Kathy Leiner
Taina Delly	Mary Elizabeth Martin
John Gregory	
Ray Edmond	
Lauren Northup 2003	

Alumnus & Parent

Josh Shores | 1998, P '25, '26

STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEES

Ad Hoc Committee of the Board

Board Members

Walter Cox | 1972, P '06
 Lara Glass | P '19, '24
 Miya Gray | 1993
 Gil Prince | 1971, P '00
 Tommy Shores | 1985, P '20, '23

Faculty/Admin Members

Anthony Sgro | 1984
 Brooks Seay
 Jonathan Schwab
 Innes Boland
 B Cornog
 Jacob O'Brien

Faculty & Staff Committee

Sarah Bednar
 Megan Grant
 Kellett Letson
 Ashly Maag
 Chris O'Steen
 Radar Onguetou
 Nate Sell
 Nick Whitmore

Alumnus & Parent

Josh Shores | 1998, P '25, '26

2023-2024 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Mr. Thomas Shores, Jr. | 1985, P '20, '23, Chair
 Ms. Lara Glass | P '19, '24 Co-Vice Chair
 Mr. Scott Shealy | 1984, P '19, '21 Co-Vice Chair
 Dr. José A. González | 1985, P '20, '23, '25, Treasurer
 Ms. Meg Bradley
 Rev. Canon Dana Corsello | P '22
 Mr. Walter Cox, Jr. | 1972, P '06
 Mrs. Gaither Deaton, | P '22
 Mr. Guy Dixon | 1990, P '23, '27
 Ms. Betsy Ewing | 1993
 Dr. Casey Gallagher | 1987

Ms. Miya Gray | 1993
 Mr. Alex Hagan | 1983
 Ms. Mary Robinson Hervig | 2002
 Ms. Janet Ley | P '22
 Mr. Marcellus Parker | 2000
 Mr. Dexter Perry | 1987, P '22
 Mr. Oliver Prince, Jr. | 1971, P '00
 Dr. Hyde Russell | 1991, P '22, '24
 Dr. Anthony Sgro | 1984, *ex officio* Head of School
 Mr. David Stover | 1975, P '11
 Ms. Morgan Mischer Warth | 2005



360 Asheville School Road
Asheville, NC 28806

