Strategic Vision 2019

a school where children are inspired for their future



Our Mission

St. Anne's prepares students for secondary education and lifelong learning. We strive to enhance the intellectual, spiritual, physical, social and artistic growth of our students so that they may realize their potential for good as citizens of local and world communities.



Introduction

In the winter of 2016 during its fifteenth year, St. Anne's Episcopal School formed a strategic planning committee comprised of members of the Board of Trustees, the Leadership Team, and the Faculty.



We began with the understanding that the School is committed to staying true to its mission. We sought to affirm our strengths and build on them, recognize our weaknesses and improve on them, and find new ways to help our constituents - past, present, and future - discover and celebrate the difference that a St. Anne's education can make.

The Strategic Planning Committee invited faculty, trustees, parents, and alumni into the conversation with a combination of meetings and surveys over the next year; for all those who contributed we are deeply grateful. We also considered models used in other schools and did some extensive reading on the shifting landscape of education and independent schools.

Our goal was to develop a dynamic and aspirational vision that would help us to better define, articulate and ultimately practice what we think will strengthen St. Anne's position as an educational leader in our region and assure the health and financial sustainability of the school. What follows is the distillation of nearly two years of discussions, input, debates, affirmations, and other forms of generative thinking that will guide St. Anne's ongoing planning and growth.

This vision document is shaped into a series of four broad strategic Purposes, each with a series of significant Goals that will serve as the blueprint for specific action steps for each of these goals over the months and years to come.

Our Vision

St. Anne's Episcopal School is valued as a model school community where talented and compassionate faculty ensure that all children are known, loved, challenged, and inspired for their future as citizens of our nation and the world.



A school where children are known

When children understand that the adults in their lives know and value them for who they are and how they learn best, we unlock the doors to intellectual and socio-emotional growth and children gain confidence.



Our Purpose

- To have dedicated teachers facilitate student-centered learning that engages each child in a small class setting, maximizing individual growth
- To have a school culture that models respect, responsibility, and compassion so that children feel safe exploring their interests, discovering new skills and ideas, and building relationships with their peers and teachers
- To develop confident children who are individually empowered to collaborate, learn and lead, St. Anne's embraces justice, diversity, equity and inclusion as the core fabric of our community. We continually assess our efforts to ensure progress and sustainability of our initiatives to prepare our students for their future.

- To differentiate instruction with appropriate levels of support and challenge and provide the professional development opportunities needed to do so
- To create opportunities for self-reflection to enhance student learning and personal growth
- To continue to deepen the spirit of shared community through student, faculty, and family engagement

A school where children are loved

With God's unconditional love as a model for our community, we embrace St. Anne's Episcopal identity, treat others with compassion and grace, and see the light of God in all persons.



Our Purpose

- To welcome people of all backgrounds, beliefs and faith traditions
- To listen to every person's story, as we know that with more voices heard, the conversation is richer and the learning is deeper
- To ensure that our culture of open-heartedness invites connection, encourages concern for others, and builds a spirit of compassion and hope

- To communicate clearly our teachers' love for and dedication to their work and the children they teach
- To work closely with the parent body and the broader community to provide regular opportunities to experience the warmth, inclusivity, and intellectual inquiry that distinguish our diverse community
- To articulate that spiritual growth is a central part of our mission to raise children who are grounded with a sound moral compass

A school where students are challenged

Today's learners need to ask thoughtful questions as they think critically and creatively, and work collaboratively. Children thrive as they experience challenge, deepening and expanding their learning.



Our Purpose

- To continue the rich history of academic excellence that characterizes Episcopal education
- To sharpen intellectual inquiry and rigor, and invite children to become flexible, critical thinkers who value opposing viewpoints, make good judgments, and seek social justice in their community
- To provide performance, presentation and public speaking opportunities from the earliest ages through graduation to build confidence and develop competent communicators
- To develop a mindset so that children take healthy and appropriate risks, develop tenacity and build resilience

- To continue to prepare students for the challenges of the most rigorous high school programs in the region
- To attract, inspire, and develop outstanding faculty and administrators through St. Anne's bold commitment to professional growth and positive school culture
- To be a school where every teacher is a lifelong learner who is committed to ongoing professional development

A school where children are inspired for their future

To become global citizens who believe they can have a positive impact on their community and their environment, students need confidence, courage, character, and a spirit of hope.



Our Purpose

- To prepare students for a rapidly changing world
- To enhance learning and foster a deeper appreciation for the natural world in each child by playing, learning, and exploring outside every day
- To ensure faculty and students are free to share their passions, explore their questions, and celebrate their struggles and successes

- To continue to promote and grow the School's transformational educational initiatives
- To differentiate and strengthen St. Anne's as an exemplary school community
- To reinforce the development of leadership in each student by instilling a commitment to use one's knowledge, skills, and resources in the service of others
- To grow our resources to support faculty development, monitor tuition increases, provide financial aid, and expand our enrollment and fundraising initiatives, to sustain and ensure a future of excellence at St. Anne's



The Strategic Planning Committee

Peter C. Thayer Head of School

Louisa Zendt Chair of the Strategic Planning Committee

Harry Baetjer *Trustee*

Cristina Bromley Faculty Jeremy Edwards Parent

Priya Patel Trustee/Parent

Jill Reilly Faculty

Valerie White Faculty/Parent

Lisa Bloomfield Faculty Raifu Durodoye Trustee

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