

THE NUMBERS

588

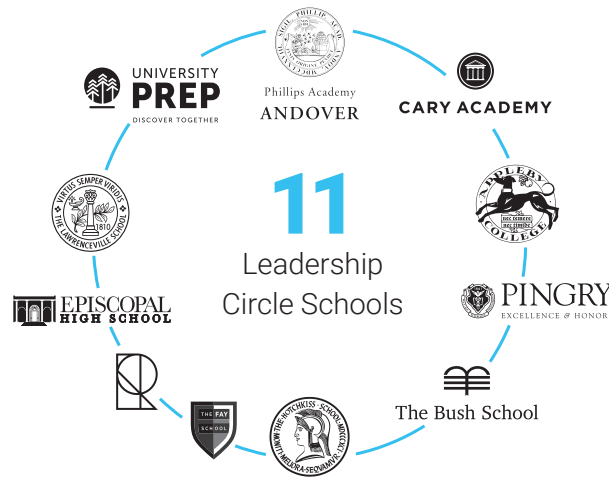
Educators and educational service providers participated in ISEEN Online Professional Learning Programs

132

Educators found connections in monthly Professional Affinity Group Sessions

120

Member Schools and Organizations



48

Webinars & Workshops with experts in the field of Experiential Education

ISEEN, the Independent Schools Experiential Education Network, is an international learning laboratory connecting experiential educators, administrators, and classroom teachers to share their collective wisdom: challenges and successes, model programs, and exploring the leadership role of experiential practices within our education communities. ISEEN provides support for:

- ▶ Directors of Experiential Education
- ▶ Global Education
- ▶ Service-Learning & Community Engagement
- ▶ Outdoor Education
- ▶ Student Leadership Development
- ▶ Sustainability Initiatives
- ▶ Environmental Justice
- ▶ Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging
- ▶ Classroom Pedagogy

ISEEN IN THE FUTURE

– Strategic Plan 2025

ISEEN is governed by a volunteer Board of Directors who set the strategic direction of the organization in partnership with the Executive Director and Program Manager. Over the next four years, ISEEN seeks to grow and expand member support and professional development programs, doing so with a lens of diversity, equity, inclusion, and social justice.

Strategic GOAL: #1

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, INCLUSION, SOCIAL JUSTICE, AND PROGRAMS: Become a diverse, inclusive, and equitable organization that prioritizes social justice through mission-focused, relevant, and unique professional development experiences that respond to member demand and nurture existing and future partnerships with mission-aligned organizations.

Strategic GOAL: #2

FINANCE: Create a long-term sustainable financial model that ensures ISEEN's ability to actualize its mission and prioritizes diversity, inclusivity, equity, and social justice.

Strategic GOAL: #3

MARKETING AND MEMBERSHIP: Cultivate a strong, diverse, inclusive, and equitable worldwide network of educators and organizations that are informed and supported by ISEEN.

Strategic GOAL: #4

ORGANIZATIONAL EXCELLENCE: Continue to strengthen the Board to support the needs of ISEEN in becoming a diverse, inclusive, and equitable organization that prioritizes social justice.

Gratitude

We **THANK YOU**, our members for being a part of this journey with ISEEN. We are here because of you and we look forward to building the future together.



iseeninfo.com



Independent
Schools
Experiential
Education
Network



Looking Back AND Looking Forward:

IMPACT REPORT

MARCH 2020 – APRIL 2021



ISEEN *Independent Schools* *Experiential Education Network*



ISEEN schools are leading the way in transformative teaching and learning in an interconnected world.

Since March 2020, ISEEN has stepped up to support experiential educators who have been dealing with a pandemic that wreaked havoc on our lives and programs in ways we have never seen before. Together we shared best practices, explored ideas for remote programs, wept at the beauty of poetry, took a few moments to breathe together, danced and laughed on Zoom and stated loud and clear that Black Lives Matter while we continued our work together to be an inclusive, passionate community that adapts quickly in response to our evolving society.

Experiential Education Definition

“*Experiential education is a pedagogical process by which educators engage students through a cycle of direct experience, reflection, analysis, and experimentation. Experiential education values personal connection to deep and applied learning and inspires growth in both the student and teacher.*”



ISEEN *Values*

As Experiential Educators, ISEEN believes that learning by doing is essential and we embrace and live by the values of:



ADAPTABILITY

Embracing the dynamic needs of students and educators in response to an evolving society



INCLUSIVITY

Creating an ethos of collaboration in which everyone is respected, valued, and represented as both a life-long learner and contributor



COMMUNITY

Engaging in the exchange of diverse ideas and practices to build a network of authentic, supportive, and socially just relationships



PASSION

Challenging the status quo and taking the initiative to pursue bold ideas with heart, compassion, and intention



Importance of Experiential Education

Experiential education prepared students and educators for these unprecedented times. It is a pedagogical process that fosters resilience, flexibility, learning from dissonance, empathy building, perspective taking, self-reflection, personal growth, processing experiences, and connecting emotional and cognitive components of the learning cycle.

Experiential education is an interdisciplinary field that values student voice and choice: “it is the participation process of collectively constructing knowledge” (Carver, 1996). The four pedagogical principles of experiential education; authenticity, active learning, drawing on student experience, and providing mechanisms for connecting experience to future opportunity allows students to be actively engaged in their own learning process, students feel connected to their local and global communities, and students understand the relevance of what they are learning (Carver, 1996).

The outcome of student-centered learning is that students have agency, students feel a sense of belonging, and naturally grow their academic competence.

citation: Carver, R. (1996). Theory for practice: A framework for thinking about experiential education. *Journal of Experiential Education*, 19(1)8-13.

