The mission of the Alzar School is to educate and facilitate the leadership development of high school students.
My favorite part of the semester has been how close this community felt ever since we returned from Chile. I felt so supported and so much love for every single person. I feel like I have a second home and a family I can always count on.
- Ceilidh Shea, Spring 2017

The Alzar School is a non-stop semester of new experiences and adventure that is life changing.
- Amelia Riddle, Fall 2016
Year Five was a memorable one! Alzar School’s enrollment grew, with 25 students in Fall 2016 and 35 students in Spring 2017. Throughout the year, new construction continued, with four additional yurts being put into service, four staff apartments becoming available, and the expansion to the Confluence Building being completed. Additionally, the school added a second food prep staff and a Director of Studies, and expanded to eight teachers.

The transformative experiences of the Alzar School continued to inspire unbelievable support from alumni and their families, allowing the school to reach its fundraising goal for the year. Members of the alumni family expanded the school’s Advisory Committee and Board of Directors.

Alzar School continues to lead in the field of education. Sean Bierle participated in an accreditation review at the Conserve School. During the summer of 2017, the school hosted the Semester School Network teacher’s conference. Former staff members are entering other teaching positions, Harvard Graduate School, and more. Truly, the school is building leaders, and we look forward to being a part of that movement for years to come.

- Sean & Kristin Bierle
OUR SIX FOUNDATIONS
The 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

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. Volunteering at the Jazz Concert in Cascade. Planting trees and revegetating the Cabarton River put in.

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.
In the 2016-2017 year, Alzar School notably achieved:

- Largest student cohort yet (Spring 2017).
- Operated new course areas programs in Patagonia Park, the Eastern Range, and on the Headwaters of the Payette.
- Had 230 applicants for the 2016-2017 year.
- Offered over $176,600 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 $210,000 to support the Buildout Campaign and student scholarships.

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

Alzar School  
PO Box 1609  
Cascade, ID 83611  
208.639.9891  
www.alzarschool.org

YEAR IN REVIEW  
2016-2017  
PROGRAMS

- The semester program continued to be the primary focus of the school, with the efforts of the faculty and staff focused on scaling operations up to larger student groups, separating into two or three pods for all expeditions and into two towns when based in the Lake District of Chile.
- Academically, the school's teachers developed syllabi to be audited by the College Board for designation as official “Advanced Placement” courses. The following courses earned AP designation: US History, World History, Calculus, Physics, Biology, Environmental Science and English Language & Composition.
- The new Director of Studies, Laura Bechdel, took the lead on the Teaching Fellowship program, and raised the bar for professional development and academics.
- 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 three staff members completed challenges, raising over $210,000.
The Alzar School is a once in a life time experience in which I made my best friends ever.

- Bryan Schrage

For the 2016-2017 school year, the Executive Director, Head of School, Director Admissions, and Admissions and Marketing Associate worked together to put an emphasis on finding and enrolling wonderful teens. The admissions staff continued our successful drip marketing campaign from the previous year, staying in touch with and encouraging the applications of potential students, as well as keeping enrolled students excited.

The Director of Admissions, along with the Executive Director and Head of School, presented to 31 schools around the country, had 35 lunch booths, and met with administrators at 36 other schools. We continued to engage alumni representatives from the Advisory Committee to develop peer to peer connections with potential students.

The result of these efforts is quantifiable. The number of applications started grew by 72%, while completed applications grew by 43%. This yields an anticipated increase in tuition revenue (for 2017-2018) of 22%. We will continue to enroll for the Spring 2017 semester and anticipate having growing our semesters to 34 (Fall) and 38 (Spring) students.
I laughed the hardest on the Eastern Range, learned the most on the Salmon, had the most deep conversations in Patagonia, and was the most excited on the Rio Nublè. It’s difficult to pin point a specific part that is my favorite.
- Ben Simpson, Fall 2016

The Alzar School fundraises to make its programs a reality for a diverse group of students. The School awarded over $176,000 in financial aid to students across the country and internationally.

For 2016-2017, the fundraising goal was originally $175,000. To reach this goal, the school celebrated its scholarship program for Valley County students with an event in March. Challenge for Leaders campaign to raised funds for our Buildout Campaign and student scholarships. In total, the school raised over $210,000.
DONOR RECOGNITION

Valedictorian $2000+
Beth and David Park
Mark and Kristina Pickard
Philip and Lisa Lapeyre
Laura Moore Cunningham
Foundation
Donald and Stacey Leebern
Amanda and Knox Thompson
Lydia and Christopher Skardon
Kim and Robert Belvin
Michael and Emily McIntyre
Pam Gillette
Sarah and Nick Vrolijk
Jordan-Wilcomb Construction
Lisa and Jeff Martin
Patricia and Alex Funderburg
Oscar and Christina Castellon
Paul Raulet
Luisa and Toby Cobb
Joe and Lauren Stuckey
Jennifer Gray and Jim Griffith
Jean Bierle

Dean's List $500+
Ben and Libby Hill
Bronwen and Gregor Kent
Brundage Mountain Resort
Carol Hines and David Elliot
Dana and Richard Lloyd
Herk and Colleen Cole
Kathi and Worth Saunders
Kelly Malone and Ron
Hellmuth
Kim Tanabe
Sue and Glen Lovelace
Tamarack Resort
Timothy Nau
Tony and Daria Pori

Honor Roll $250+
Arnold Aviation
Ashley Inn
Burdorff Hot Springs
Franklin Building Supply
Grand Targhee Resort
Jug Mountain Ranch
Laura and John Warner
Mary Tracey
Patty Barnes
Paul Collins
Shauna and Mike Arnold
Tess and Josh Lewis Family
Trinity Therapeutic
Turin and Kyle Dickman

Graduate $100+
Alice Hill
Brandon Buckmaster
Chang Won and Minhee Suh
Diego Velez and Sarah Holloway
Douglas McAdam
Dwight Hurd
Flight of Fancy Bakery
Gary and Amanda Thompson
Gene and Elaine Battles
Idaho First Bank
Jack Olson
John and Sidney Gargiulo
Judy and Jonathan Bryan
Ken and Sharon Anderson
Kent Ford
Lakeview Chevron
Laura Bechdel and Neal
McAdam
Les and Susan Bechdel
Marc and Carloe de Jong Family
Mark and Cindy Anderson
Nancy Cussler
Nick DeMarco
O-K Gravel Works
Richard and Nancy Rush
Rita Foss
Lisa and Roger Cates
Sarah Jessup and Maggie
Rosenthal
Scott and Beverly Pressman
Sean Carr
Susan Olson and Ric Colby
Warren Drake

Salutatorian $1000+
Amy Robbins and Michael Cox
Anne and Greg Cunningham
Ed and Christy Novellas
Edward and Phebe Hibshman
John and Anne Olden
Katie Hawkins
Larry and Tricia Bierle
Northrop Grumman
Page and Bryan Seyfried
Sean and Kristin Bierle
Tucker and Mark Schrage
Being able to really work one on one with teachers made my classes really engaging, and covering content that the teachers really seemed to enjoy made classes fun and also added to my level of engagement.

- Lola de Garmo, Spring 2017

I loved all of Chile... The expeditions were amazing and it was beautiful.

- Jake Vrolijk, Fall 2016
The 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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>POSITION ON BOARD</th>
<th>OCCUPATION/EMPLOYER</th>
<th>RESIDENCE</th>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. Kim Tanabe</td>
<td>President</td>
<td>Physician, St. Luke's</td>
<td>Garden Valley, ID</td>
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<tr>
<td>Katherine Hawkins</td>
<td>Vice-President</td>
<td>Physicians Assistant, St. Luke's</td>
<td>Boise, ID</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cailin O'Brien-Feeney</td>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Policy Director, Winter Wildlands Alliance</td>
<td>Boise, ID</td>
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<td>Shauna Arnold</td>
<td>Board Member</td>
<td>Massage Therapist, Parent Representative</td>
<td>Cascade, ID</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ken Anderson</td>
<td>Board Member</td>
<td>Retired, Former Principal Boise High School</td>
<td>Salt Lake City, UT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tucker Schrage</td>
<td>Board Member</td>
<td>Former Teacher, Parent Representative</td>
<td>Alexandria, VA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kristin Bierle</td>
<td>Ex-officio member</td>
<td>Executive Director, Alzar School</td>
<td>McCall, ID</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sean Bierle</td>
<td>Ex-officio member</td>
<td>Head of School, Alzar School</td>
<td>McCall, ID</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
My favorite part of the semester was Chile. The expeditions were incredible, beautiful, and I will forever remember it. It was amazing how fast my knowledge of Spanish grew.

- Lauren Borthwick Hoff, Fall 2016