

Mission

The International Boys' Schools Coalition (IBSC) is dedicated to the education and development of boys worldwide, the professional growth of those who work with them, and the advocacy and the advancement of institutions — primarily schools for boys — that serve them.

Our Vision

To be the leading voice worldwide in best education practices for boys.

Our Values and Principles

Through this Strategic Plan, IBSC seeks to advance the mission of the organization, assisting our member schools and our related constituencies, most especially the boys we serve. The Strategic Plan sets the priorities for the organization, establishes the broad framework through which action steps are implemented, and endows the confidence and dexterity to adapt for that which lies beyond sight.

In deliberations with the IBSC board of trustees and associated members, the Strategic Plan is organized under four goal areas that reflect each of the board's committees: program, research, membership, and finance, over a horizon of 2020–23. The Strategic Plan is evaluated and updated annually by the board of trustees, to ensure that the organization is responsive to the most pressing needs of members and member schools.

PROGRAM

The Program Committee develops professional learning programs aimed at supporting the education of boys and those who work with, lead, and parent them. IBSC convenes international, national, and regional conferences; coordinates online classes and forums; and creates digital media and related resources for exchanging and sharing best practices to enhance the education and healthy development of boys. IBSC designs and delivers original programs from ground-breaking research studies that encourage a shared passion and expertise for educating boys in colleagues around the world.

By the end of 2023, IBSC will:

1. Continue to build and promote diverse, global learning communities, both within and among schools, ensuring best possible access for member schools and their individual members, while endorsing the inherent value and dignity of each person.
2. Serve as the recognized international voice for issues related to boys and men and the role of boys' schools so that the vision, resources, and association with IBSC are viewed as significant.
3. To best support member engagement and further revenue generation, enhance international, regional, and online programs to strengthen professional development, the practice of schools, and the bonds of learning communities.
4. In collaboration with the Research Committee, develop leading-edge programs — based on IBSC research initiatives and aligned with our guiding values and principles — that are responsive to best educational practices in boys' education and relevant issues affecting boys' schools.
5. In collaboration with the Finance Committee, create enhanced processes and systems to store, share, and evaluate key program experiences and learnings.
6. Further investigate and explore ways to credential and accredit professional development to deepen member engagement and promote pathways for personal development.

RESEARCH

The Research Committee curates, develops, and disseminates globally collaborative action research programs and research initiatives that enhance expertise around pedagogy, curriculum, character and well-being, school process and leadership, and culture and teacher formation. The research reflects the best educational practices for meeting the needs of boys. In particular, the committee supports the work of the IBSC Action Research program, an in-depth professional learning experience for teachers around the world. The committee partners with leading academics at universities and research organizations to develop global research projects that address important topics in educating boys to inform practice.

By the end of 2023, IBSC will:

1. Ensure that global research initiatives undertaken by IBSC are relevant, cost effective, and accessible, and produce actionable outcomes.
2. Curate, communicate, and celebrate relevant research from IBSC and around the world.
3. In collaboration with the Program Committee, establish and promote opportunities for member schools to create interest groups to share expertise in and operationalize key components of IBSC research.
4. Enact measures to maintain the efficacy, ensure the sustainability, and support the position of the IBSC Action Research program as a central facet of IBSC.
5. Utilize action research and other studies about boys and boys' schools for publications, professional development, and the advocacy and significance of IBSC.
6. Pursue relationships with universities and organizations to create research opportunities that serve the needs of our membership.

MEMBERSHIP

The Membership Committee develops services to engage and support new member schools so that they might gain optimal value from their association with IBSC. Through the construction and execution of a robust and sophisticated biennial survey, the Membership Committee identifies and recommends services and initiatives to assure member satisfaction and retention. The Membership Committee recommends strategies for increasing the number of IBSC member schools and suggests ways to re-engage with schools that have dropped their membership.

By the end of 2023, IBSC will:

1. Develop intentional protocols for onboarding new member schools.
2. Identify and execute protocols for building relationships with new heads and schools' administrative teams in order to encourage long-term membership.
3. Use survey data to drive services and initiatives to support and enhance member satisfaction.
4. Develop a regional recruitment strategy to promote growth in the coalition's overall membership.

FINANCE

The Finance Committee supports the fiscal stewardship of IBSC's current and long-term resources. In coordination with IBSC staff, the committee establishes and monitors the annual operating budget to support appropriate balance of revenue and expenses, while also guiding the long-term investment and annual drawdown of the organization's permanent reserve funds. The Finance Committee is responsible for engaging an independent auditing firm to annually conduct comprehensive review of the coalition's fiscal operations and long-term stewardship. Guiding strategies for revenue, including membership dues structure, program revenue, and voluntary support, are also important ongoing considerations for the Finance Committee.

By the end of 2023, IBSC will:

1. Develop and implement a five-year financial model that addresses the goals and objectives of the strategic plan.
2. Study the existing dues structure and develop alternative models that could more appropriately support its mission.
3. Clarify the desired size and role of the reserves in the financial model.
4. Explore and clarify the role of philanthropy in the financial model.
5. Seek and secure revenue sources, as well as perceived value, through publications, professional development, conferences and workshops, and professional connections.