

We at Silver Lining Learning are so excited to work with the Antonian College Preparatory High School community as we undertake the process of developing the school's next strategic plan! Knowing that this work requires ongoing reflection, open communication, and access to resources, materials, and staff, we wanted to take some time to introduce ourselves and discuss the process that we will be engaging in over the next few months. This process will involve observations of classrooms, extra-curricular activities, board meetings, internal leadership meetings, and interviews with students, teachers, staff, leadership, parents, and other key stakeholders of the Antonian community. We know that there has been significant transition over the last few years at Antonian, and this process is well-suited to re-establish and recenter the school on its core mission and values, and establish clear goals and actions for the school community to support and implement in the years ahead.

First, a little bit about Silver Lining Learning. Combined, our team, led by Dr. Hedi Belkaoui and Hal Schwartz, brings over 40 years of school expertise covering all areas of PK-12 education, school leadership, strategic planning and development, and national landscape and context analysis. Our paths as educators have wound their way through rural communities, urban schools, and various public, private, and faith-based school systems. This collective experience - combined with our individual skills as keen problem solvers, adept communicators, and team players - position us to be uniquely qualified to support Antonian in the strategic planning process. We are excited to explore, watch, and support Antonian's growth and development.

Specifically, our work in this strategic planning process will support Antonian in developing specific and measurable goals and a clear action plan for how to reach those benchmarks over the next 5 years. These goals should address the following components:

- Identifying keys areas of strength and areas for growth across academics, finances, operations, Catholic identity and marketing/enrollment for Antonian;
- Determine the school's non-negotiables for continued growth in enrollment, operational vitality, and academic excellence;
- Codify the set of operating principles and key tenets of a high performing school; and
- Provide all stakeholders with a comparison of current practices and decision making to national best practice and models.

Lastly, as discussed in our introduction, we believe that the best strategic planning process involves a complete review of all elements of school operations, as well as the interactions between all members of the school community. This means that students may be asked to be interviewed by the Silver Lining Learning team as part of the process. A very small number of students (10 students per focus group) will be selected randomly by our team and in conjunction with school administration. We will also invite parents and teachers to multiple focus groups throughout the strategic planning process so all stakeholder input is collected and reviewed by our team. If you do not want your child to participate in interviews, please inform Antonian leadership so they will not be inadvertently selected.

We are both honored and excited to work with Antonian College Preparatory High School as they continue to create an innovative learning program that raises student outcomes and puts them at the forefront of strong Catholic school education.

Sincerely,

The Silver Lining Learning Team