

Projects:

ASDE Stories & Continuing Communication

- What we learned, difficulties, owning our shit
- Ongoing communication plan for transparency, engagement, general communication of what we are up to
- It's been pointed out in feedback that folks are unclear about what we do/don't have a clear picture of ASDE's projects/intention/purpose
- Social media engagement probably falls under this?

Organizational Structure

- Make more policies, clearer roles, decentralization of work
- Do this before onboarding more volunteers
- Ongoing organizing team anti-oppression trainings

On-boarding Volunteers

- Expanding team
- Creating a process for on-boarding so it can be streamlined/supported/make sense for people
- Expanding our non-hierarchical structure, expanding who is responsible for what so it's not relying on just a few people
- Team sustainability

Website Restructure

- Focus group (market research)
- Youth-friendly (youth support in redesigning it! Currently it is designed by adults for adults, that's clear in feedback we have gotten)
- Make content easier to find for certain demographics (teachers, parents, SDE facilitators, youth, etc.)
 - Tags on TP — how can we use them more/make them more useful
- Capacity for website redesign?
- What are we going to cut out, if anything?

Youth Involvement/Amplification

- Something we have been trying to work on for years!
- Aligns with our youth liberation values (young people are people)
- More youth are reaching out wanting to be involved as well

MRM Partnership

- Events platform
- Communication/engagement platform for members
- Aligns with our collective liberation & Anti-Oppression values
- Opportunities for partnering with MRM to reach out to teachers/educators

Events

- Intersects with a lot of the other projects, above
- Supports people who are in various places in their journeys (i.e. by young people for young people, parenting, SDE facilitators, teachers in conventional school, SDE/unschooling 101, etc.)
- **SDE Weekend** — people already love this and have good feedback and want more events
- Virtual is good for accessibility

Incoming generating events are highlighted. We should think about and focus on other things that bring in income. Maybe have a brainstorming session?

Notes/Feedback from the community:

- I have been thinking about the ASDE weekend and it would be nice to have those more often throughout the year. But I know it is a big undertaking. So I wonder if it would be less work to only have 1 day intensives quarterly with each having a sort of general theme.
- Please keep doing what you're doing! I love that you: create safe spaces in your community, inspire parents in their deschooling journey, decolonize, honor/value children, and actively support inclusivity and anti-racism. All I have to say is Keep It Coming!
- I would like ASDE to have more of an advocate/organizer/activist orientation. In other words, I would like ASDE to have a component that is active and committed to bringing more organizers and advocates into the alliance, with the end goal of bringing more awareness of SDE to the wider public, especially young people. I am willing to help in organizing such an effort.

Notes from the meeting 3/31

- Found ASDE through the newsletter - questions about who/what we are
- More clarity in newsletter about who we are? A clear who/what is ASDE for folks new to the newsletter
- The “backstory” of ASDE was a great add-in to my understanding of ASDE’s “why” beyond promoting/supporting SDE organizations
- Was not aware of the library initiative - that’s awesome!

- Many youth join SDE communities as a result of breaking in schools. Hopeful we can create spaces for young people to thrive before breaking in the school system
- Library initiative materials/structures that we could borrow for local “happy hours”/meetups I’d love to have access to them
- Facebook/discord are challenging because provide barriers to children being in on the conversation
- Having an ASDE discord
- How can we feel as a center or a school a part of this organization?
- Took the organizational membership form and polled the kids in the space with those questions.... Are you allowed to do nothing in this space?

Volunteers

- Put out a push to get all the SDE communities and groupings on the map
- Get some volunteers to contact all the places they think are SDE centers in their state and find out if they really are SDE, then put them in the resource directory. Cohort of people who do this in their area
- Take off the ones that are no longer there
- Other people are getting calls asking where SDE centers are and they point them to the map

What do you want on the website?

- NEED AN ALLIANCE cause what they are facing are a lot of state regulations, all of that. How do we identify as an SDE school but also offer flexibility for homeschooling families as a drop off center. I need these people so we can help stay afloat
- Things to be able to just take from the ASDE website to start a group — website structure. HTML, CSS, map, resources, and get a website going as an offshoot pretty quickly. To replicate elements and target toward a local SDE group
- Looking for legal startup supports
- In looking at ASDE website, wondering, “how do you even do this in a group setting?” Don’t know how to do this, do SDE
- A model day - some structures to borrow. What an SDE model day looks like (or what it can look like!)
- ALC materials were super helpful for what the model can look like
- Maybe a page that links to all the resources in the SDE world.... Way things can look, facilitator tools, etc. theres’ lots out there and having a page of how to do it that shares those streamlined would be cool
- How do I explain this to parents? How do we put together a day? How do we do this legally? What does SDE mean? How to get people to understand what it means and how to do it.
- Resource people can just take for their website
- **Maybe a “getting started” resource and then a support group for “ongoing SDE spaces?”**
- Parents looking to deschool. And maybe the website and resource/getting started guide can include that

- Ongoing resource of deschooling as a reminder that it's a process not a destination
- **ASDE provide a network for getting folks connected**
- **Maybe a support group for SDE centers, much like the ALC weekly calls or the local SDE group monthly calls**
- It seems like one question is what function ASDE wants to serve in terms of helping centers to figure out their approach. Seems like what networks like ALCs and Sudbury schools do — should ASDE serve a similar function? Or just help to connect centers to these models? Something else?
- I have a similar question in my mind about what role ASDE should play. We do point people to the ALC network and Liberated Learners and Sudbury for sure, especially when they ask about resources and support for starting centers and are looking for models. But there's plenty of independent places that are their own thing and still SDE, or use tools from all places, and that's just as valid. So my question really is... is it needed for ASDE to have support for people starting centers or do the existing supports have it covered well enough? And that's for you all and everyone else in the community to answer if that's something you want and need
- It's not at all ASDE's goal to replicate what other people are already doing so beautifully. We want to amplify all of the other stuff happening, and fill any gaps there are
- Brazil - wanting to have more connection with ASDE for more representation and showing what SDE can be. Say to people that we have a network
- Support for people in other countries where SDE is very new (or taboo). Need validation
- **A getting started section for parents, facilitators, community members, etc. - maybe mention some resources such as journals/resources/articles/examples on the RD under a "getting started" section**
- Helping folks make it easier to see what else is happening in the community
- Maybe color-coding website map to have one color for vetted and one color for not yet vetted
- Put a disclaimer on certain centers on the directory/map. Hey, we haven't vetted them but they might be SDE

Events

- Events - an occasional Ask Us Anything event
- Unconference/event for young people in SDE

Young People Involvement:

- Put feelers out to the kids in communities we are connected to and invite them into these conversations and ask how they want the website to be, how they want to be involved
- Put it out in a newsletter a call for young people