

Compass Chronicle

Compass Charter Schools | Online Program | October 2019

A Warm Welcome From our Superintendent!

It is hard to believe that October is here! I hope everyone is enjoying our Compass Experience, and having a successful start to their school year. Our #CompassFam has grown tremendously over the past year! It is truly an honor that our scholars, both new and returning, have chosen Compass to guide your unique educational journeys for the 2019-20 school year.



The Compass Chronicle is our quarterly newsletter, full of important information and exciting updates about Compass Charter Schools. I hope you enjoy learning more about our scholars, our families, our staff, and the amazing work that is happening in and out of the virtual classroom!

Is there something specific you'd like to see in the newsletter? We have Virtual Suggestion Boxes for [scholars](#), as well as [parents](#), where you can share your input on Compass Charter Schools. We review these monthly with our [Parent Advisory Council](#), [Scholar Leadership Council](#), and Staff Advisory Committee. Feel free to share your suggestion(s) today to help us continue to enhance the educational experience for our scholars.

On behalf of our amazing staff, welcome to the 2019-20 school year! I wish our scholars nothing but the best as they chart their educational journey at Compass.

Forever Loud & Proud,
J.J. Lewis, Superintendent & CEO
jlewis@compasscharters.org
[@lewis1jj](#)

Online Scholars' Work Samples & Learning Labs

Scholars in our online program are hard at work in their courses. Each week, they spend time using our online curriculum providers (Accelerate Education, K12, and StrongMind) to learn independently. Then, attend their live learning lab classes taught by our credentialed teachers to enhance their learning. Here's some of what they've been up to:

Scholars in Mrs. Tatum's 8-grade Language Arts class had fun wearing their sunglasses during class while discussing their lesson for the week.



Our middle school scholars had a blast in Ms. Davis' Spanish learning lab. They spent time creating sentences to express their mood in Spanish!

Ms. Davis (78) - Adobe Connect

iept18,2019-SpanishMS.pptx

ICEBREAKER! ¿Qué tal te sientes? Circle how you're currently feeling. Write a sentence, translate your mood word to Spanish.

ATTENDANCE (3 minutes)

Enraged	Furious	Frustrated	Shocked	M	Happy	Lively	Stunned	Excited
Laid	Impatient	Angry	Resentful	O	Energetic	Careless	Impressed	Amused
Furious	Resentful	Angry	Resentful	O	Happy	Excited	Amused	Amused
Regretful	Disappointed	Overwhelmed	Frustrated	D	Peaceful	Relaxed	Peaceful	Relaxed
M	O	O	D	M	E	T	E	R
Regretful	Disappointed	Overwhelmed	Frustrated	E	Peaceful	Relaxed	Peaceful	Relaxed
Lonely	Missed	Lonely	Missed	T	Peaceful	Relaxed	Peaceful	Relaxed
Disappointed	Overwhelmed	Frustrated	Frustrated	E	Calm	Relaxed	Peaceful	Relaxed
Disappointed	Overwhelmed	Frustrated	Frustrated	R	Peaceful	Relaxed	Peaceful	Relaxed

Sentence Frames you can use

Hoy me siento _____

Ahora me siento _____

Ms. Davis: Hoy me siento orgullosa.

Attendees (24)

Discussion (Everyone)

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WICOR

ARTIC

OBJECTIVES

AGENDA

Scholars in Ms. Davis' high school Spanish class used Cornell Notes, an AVID strategy, to outline tips for successful learning, greetings in Spanish and more.

iept18,2019-SpanishHS.pptx

CORNELL NOTES

Name: Davis	Date: 9/18/19
Class: Spanish	
Unit/Topic: Unit 1 - Bienvenidos	
Subcategories	NOTES
Lesson 1 - tips for learning spanish	Caleb Practice saying them out loud Carell G practice talking with Spanish speaking people Caleb make sure things are in subject-verb agreement
Lesson 2 - spanish alphabet	David Spanish vowels have only one sound each
Lesson 3 - formal introductions	use when speaking to a teacher, boss, older person, policeman person in charge authority figures
Lesson 4 - informal introductions	use with friends, mom & dad, little kids peers close family
Lesson 5 - small talk	Carell how to talk to someone you just met Carell: how to use "ser"
SUMMARY: Write 3 or more sentences describing specific learning from these notes. What was the unit mostly about?	

Video (1)

Attendees (17)

Hosts (1)

Participants (16)

Discussion (Everyone)

User 8: peers

User 21: Informal Is Children Siblings :)

User 21: ?

User 10: formal introductions authority figures too

User 21: Ok Garsias :)

User 5: seeing your neighbor at the mall

User 17: Buenos dias senora

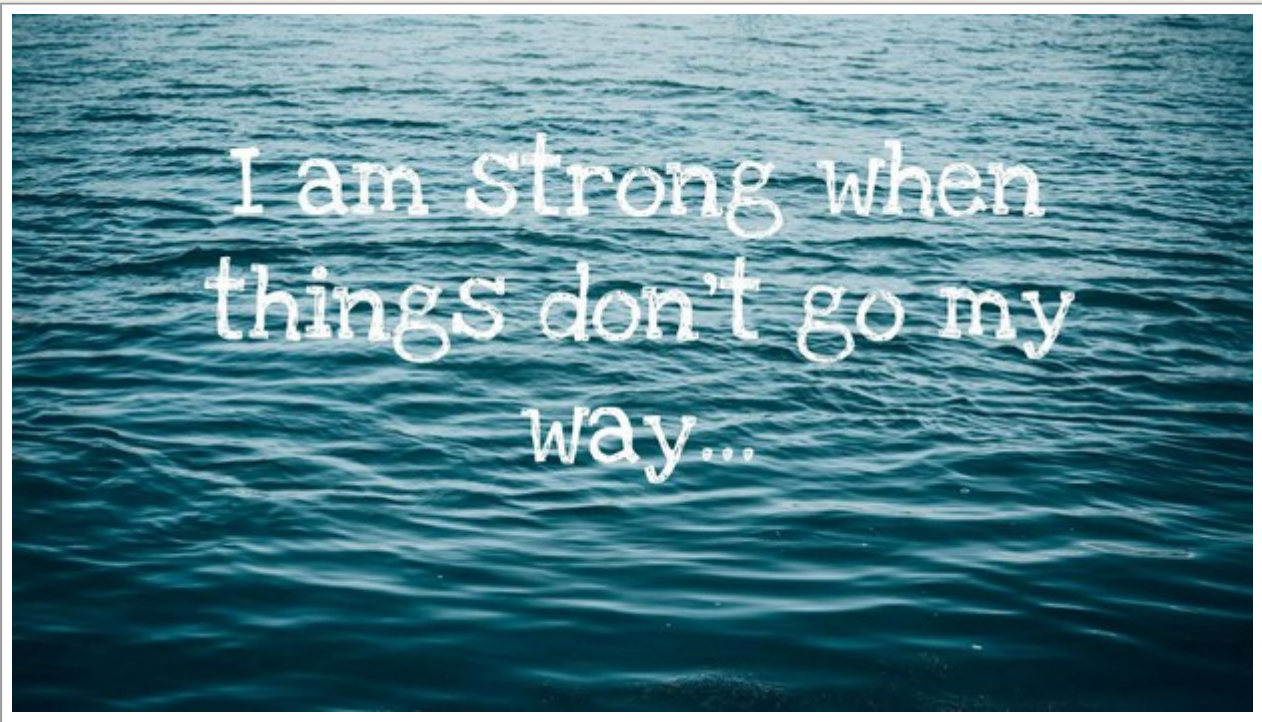
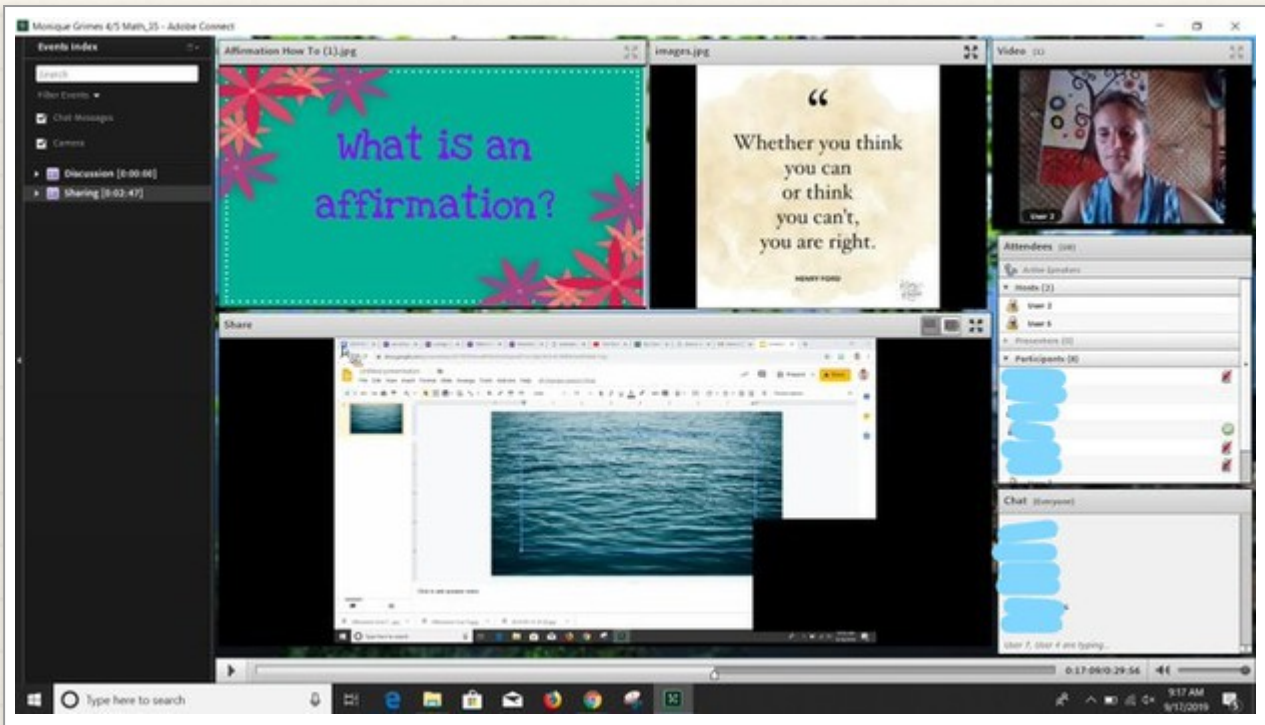
User 10: how to talk to someone you just met

User 10: how to use "ser"

User 5: the begining of spanish

Multiline Attendees are tuning

The 4 and 5-grade scholars using the Accelerate Education curriculum with Mrs. Grimes' learned about affirmations and spent time writing their own affirmations!



New to the online high school family this year, Mrs. Sowell spent time getting to know scholars in her World History learning lab with a fun ice breaker activity.

Introduction LL Slides 9_9_19 (1).pptx


Draw Stop Sharing

Ice Breaker/Mental Break

2 Truths 1 Lie
Please post 2 Truths and 1 Lie
Class will guess which one is the lie
Please keep it classroom appropriate! Thank you!

Ms. Sowell

1. I love celery
2. I worked on a presidential campaign
3. I jumped off a moving train in Europe



Sync

This year, in order to increase scholar achievement, the online high school teachers and scholars will be completing focused notes. Here, Mrs. Sowell reviews why notes are important to learning and an example of focused notes during her learning lab!

Introduction LL Slides 9_9_19 (1).pptx

Draw Stop Sharing

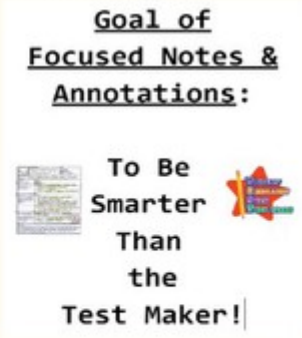
Focus Notes

Why take Focus notes?

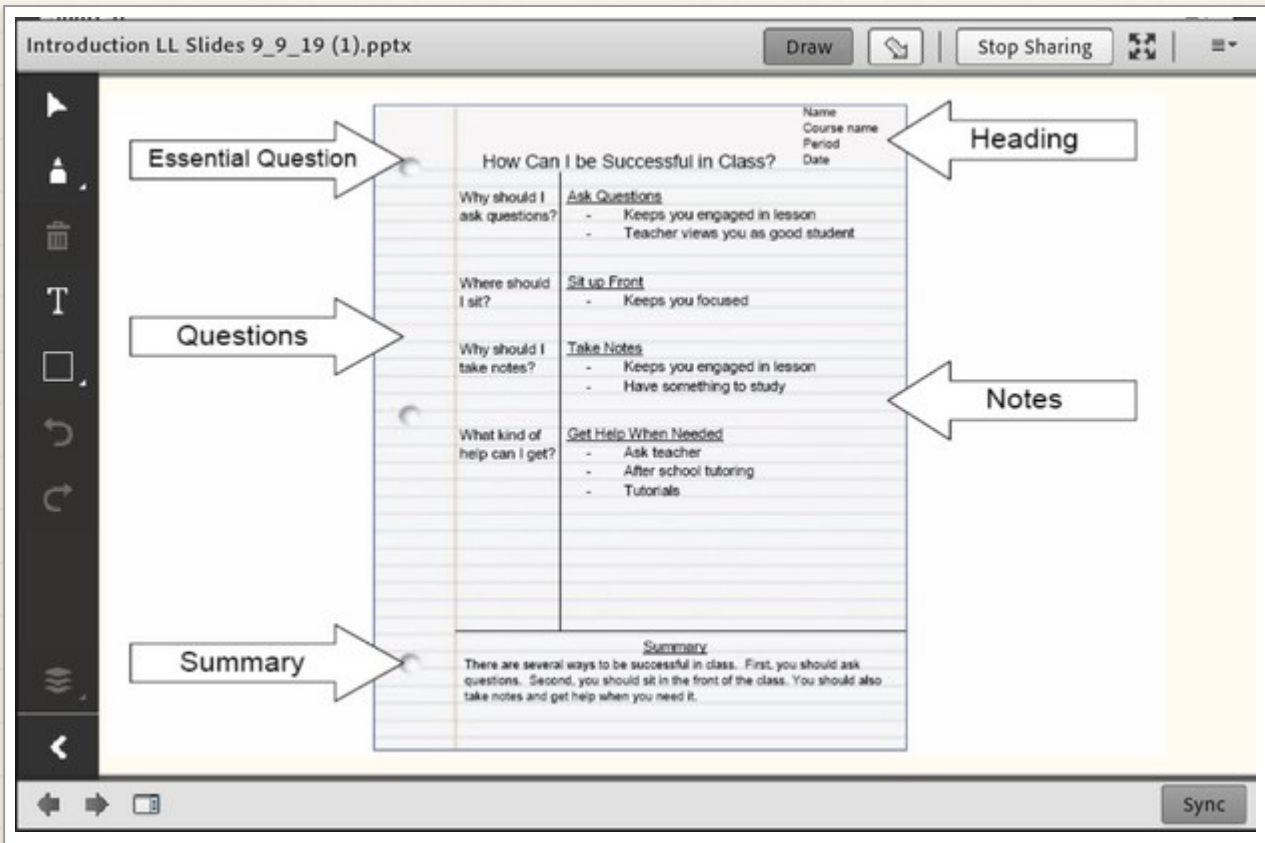
1. Helps you retain 90% of info = A range
2. Use to study for quiz/exams
3. Used in colleges

Goal of Focused Notes & Annotations:


To Be Smarter Than the Test Maker!



Sync



Our high school scholars showed off their note-taking skills in English class.

Cornell Notes 	Topic/Objective: Lesson 4: Personal Narrative and Narrative Nonfiction	Name: [REDACTED]
		Class/Period: English
		Date: 9/15/19
Essential Question: What is the order in which events occur in a story/narrative?		
Questions:	Notes:	
discuss	"to talk about something with another person or group"	
domain	"a specific area of knowledge"	
Label	"to describe or designate with a title or description"	
logical	"in harmony with sound reasoning; sensible or reasonable"	
opinion	"a personal judgment or appraisal; a view or belief not provable as fact"	
rarely	"seldom; infrequently"	
rule	"a prescribed, suggested, or self-imposed guide for conduct or action"	
show	"to set forth in a statement, account, or description: make evident or clear: assert, declare, demonstrate, or prove"	
specific	"of a particular or exact sort; characterized by precise formulation"	
term	"a word or phrase that has an exact meaning"	
What are characters?	the individuals in the story	
What is tone?	style of expression in speaking	
What is the setting?	where the story takes place/when the events occur	
What is the plot?	events that during the story	

Scholars are even using focused notes in their elective courses. Here is an example of focused notes in Sociology:

Cornell Notes For your OWN copy of this paper: Click File and choose: Make a Copy When you are done writing, click File and choose: Download as	Topic/Unit/lesson: UNIT 1	Name: ██████████ Class: Sociology Date: September 21, 2019
Questions/Topics:	Notes:	
LESSON 1		
Social Sciences:	Study of human social behavior and the function of human society. Sciences include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sociology • Anthropology • Psychology • Economics • Political science 	
Sociology:	Studies human society and social behavior	
Psychology:	Studies behavior and mental processes	
Anthropology:	Comparative study of past and present cultures	
Economics:	Analyzes the choices people make in order to satisfy their needs and wants	
Political science:	Examination of principals, organization, and operation of government	
LESSON 2		
Development of sociology:	French philosopher Auguste Comte considered the founder of sociology	



An Online Family Story!

This month, we're featuring the Peart family! Take a moment to get to know their great family and their experience at Compass:



1. Could you please share a little bit about your family with us? How many children, pets, etc.?

We are a family of four with two teenage daughters. They are fifteen months apart but because one of them was held back in the last couple of years they are both in 8-grade now.

2. What is a typical day of learning like for your scholar? What is their typical daily schedule?

We all start stirring between 7 and 8 am. The kids eat breakfast. One of the girls begins her studies at 9 am while the other has a harder time getting herself going so she starts around 11 am except on Tuesdays when her learning lab for math meets at 9 am. We have them in separate rooms so even though they are in the same classes they work independently. They both attend every learning lab. They also attend the Q&A sessions with their teachers if necessary. They follow the schedule that the school provides, which has worked well! The agreement is that if there is any work leftover by the end of the week it must be completed before the next week begins. This keeps them from falling behind!

3. As a parent, what do you enjoy most about helping your scholar learn at home?

I enjoy the fact that you know they are concentrating on school without all of the daily stress that comes with a brick and mortar school. In our case we are in the online program so there is no rushing to class several times a day, carrying a huge stack of books, or social distractions. Also, I find they get the total amount of work done in a shorter period of time than it takes to go to a brick and mortar school all day with added evening homework. My girls complete their work on most days in 4-5 hours total.

4. What do you enjoy most about being part of the Compass family?

This is our first year at Compass! Originally we took our girls out of public school and placed them in a Christian school. That lasted three years but in the end that school wasn't a good fit because both of the girls ended up with issues trying to keep up with all of the work. Then we tried a year of homeschooling through an online Christian academy. We thought we failed

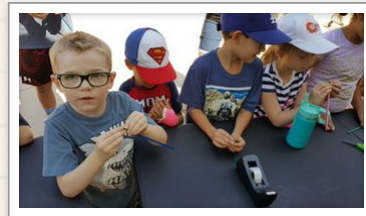
miserably and were fearful to try Compass. However, we are so pleased that we did try Compass! Getting on board with this program has been the easiest adjustment for the girls (remember they have been in three different programs in three years, Compass being the fourth.) Hands down this is the most well-organized program we have been a part of! We no longer feel like failures!

5. How does Compass help your scholar achieve their goals or dreams?

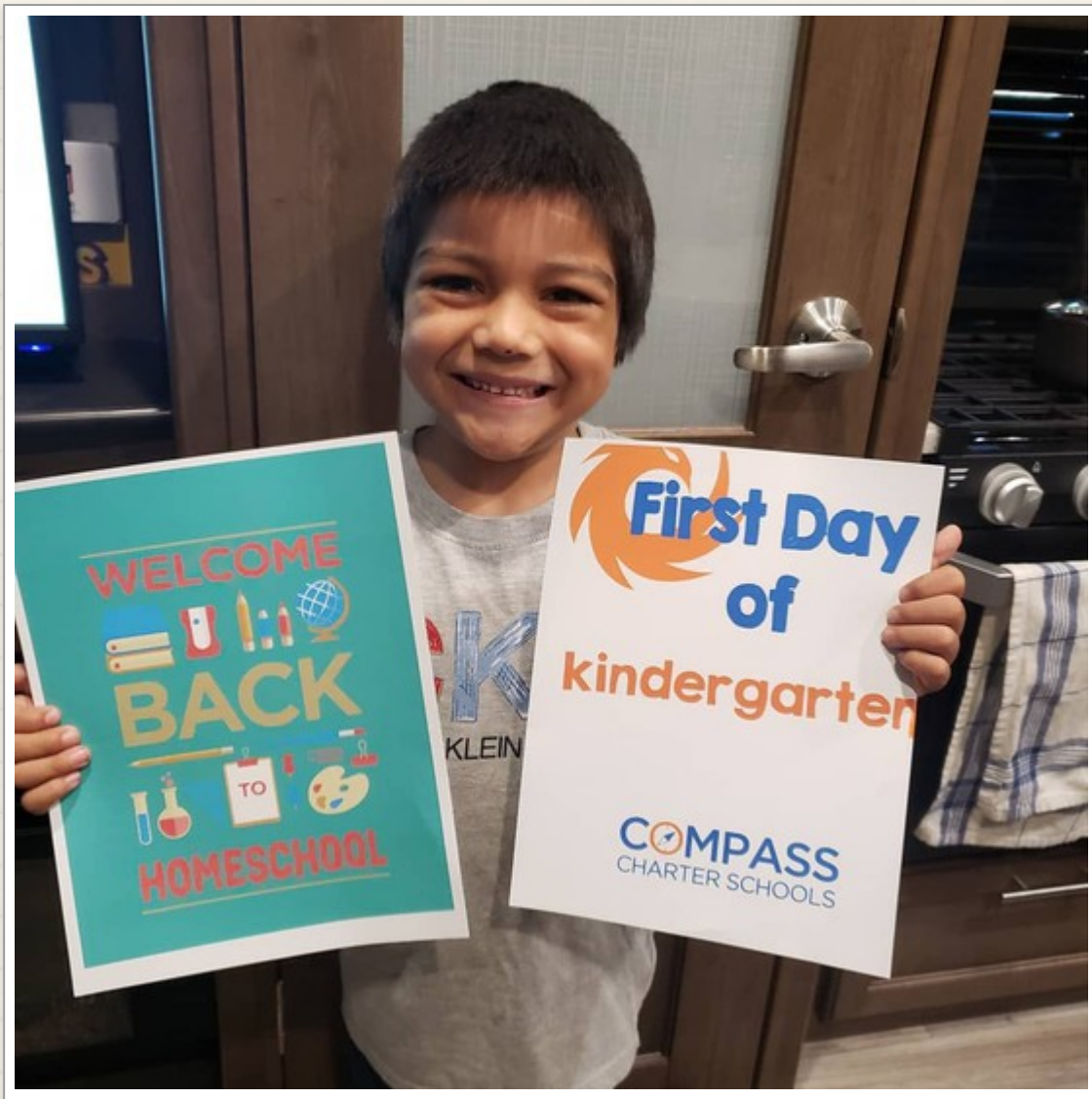
Compass helps them achieve their goals by holding them accountable. The communication between parents and school staff is very helpful. We receive text messages, emails, and phone calls to help keep us in the know.

Check Out Our Engagement Activities!

Earlier this month our Engagement Department organized Back-to-School picnics throughout California for our scholars and their families! Our families and staff enjoyed fun activities like an egg drop, sack race, and arts and crafts while enjoying time with each other in-person. Our scholars played with their peers while our learning coaches enjoyed casual conversation with each other and our staff!



Our scholars also participated in a Back-to-School Selfie Contest! They shared photos of their first day of school as Compass scholars on social media for a chance to win a great prize.



Our Staff Development

In August, our teachers and school staff attended the all-staff retreat in beautiful Palm Springs! All attending staff participated in professional development training, planning with their teams and strategy meetings with leadership in preparation for the new school year. The time also included team bonding activities for the entire staff. It was a great time for collaboration and relationship building for all.



Leadership Spotlight

Meet Erin Smith, Director of Online Learning! Erin has been part of Compass for seven years and has been working in education for almost 18 years. She's taught science to middle and high school scholars and also spent time working as an Education Consultant. A few fun things to know about Erin is that she loves mint chip ice cream and her favorite color is blue. She loves to wakeboard and according to her sons, she's pretty good at it, too!





Karen Lewers

Position: High School Teacher

Years in Education: 20

About Karen: My husband Justin and I have 3 daughters, in Valencia, CA

Favorite Educational Quote: We do not learn from experience. We learn from reflecting on experience. ~John Dewey

Erin Thomson

Position: Middle School Math Teacher

Years in Education: 15 years

Favorite Educational Quote: Every time a student makes a mistake in math, they grow a synapse. - Jo Boaler



SHARE YOUR STORY






Are you enjoying the educational experience at Compass? Tell us! We want to hear from you. Why did you decide to join the Compass family? Or, what do you love most about being part of our community? Share your comments and all of your wonderful experiences at Compass with us! [Click here](#) to share.



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https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d_3jyxoCWVU



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