

COMPASS  
CHARTER SCHOOLS



2020-21

# A Year in Review

SCHOLAR LEADERSHIP COUNCIL



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# Proud Scholar

Compass Charter Schools



# MISSION • VISION • VALUES



## Mission

Our mission is to inspire and develop innovative, creative, self-directed learners, one scholar at a time.

## Vision

Our vision is to create a collaborative virtual learning community, inspiring scholars to appreciate the ways in which arts and sciences nurture a curiosity for life-long learning, and prepare scholars to take responsibility for their future success.

## Values

Achievement | Respect | Teamwork | Integrity | Communication



# A WORD FROM OUR SUPERINTENDENT & COUNCIL CHAIR

Here at Compass Charter Schools, what we value most is the scholar's voice; listening to and learning from our scholars is what fuels us to strive for greatness and improve in every way possible. Thus, the Scholar Leadership Council (SLC) provides scholar feedback on school policies and procedures at Compass to ensure that they are consistent with its Mission, Vision, and Values. Members act as a committed group of advisors to the staff and administration regarding issues that affect their peer scholars at Compass. They provide feedback and insight from the scholar's perspective on school processes, policies, and initiatives to ensure that the needs of scholars are included as decisions are made.

SLC serves as an advisory, not a decision-making body, that makes recommendations, encourages brainstorming, and provides opportunities for scholar involvement on committees. Within the past year, the SLC has heard from various members of Compass to gain insight and perspective in regards to the activities and interests of the school and has used this information to make better-informed decisions and recommendations.

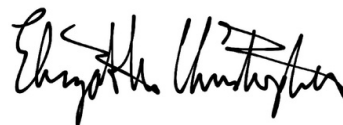
The SLC is composed of scholars from multiple grade levels in both the Online and Options Learning Programs. They use these scholars' experiences to learn from one another and explore every perspective. They conducted their elections this past October and elected Elizabeth Christopher, Michael Effie, and KristiLynn Effie as Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary.

The SLC also conducted its annual scholar survey and used the results and feedback to address issues Compass scholars have expressed. As a result of many in-depth conversations, the SLC has made multiple recommendations to Compass in the hopes of addressing these issues and improving the scholar experience as a whole. In reflecting upon this past year, the SLC is excited and hopeful for the next year and generation of Firebirds and is looking forward to continuing their work to improve Compass. The SLC is always open and accepting of new members and encourages Compass scholars to become involved in the SLC's goal of improving Compass Charter Schools.

Forever Loud and Proud,



J.J. Lewis, Superintendent & CEO



Elizabeth Christopher, Council Chair



# ABOUT THE SCHOLAR LEADERSHIP COUNCIL



## **Elizabeth Christopher (she/her/hers) - Council Chair**

Elizabeth is a 12-grade scholar with Compass Charter Schools and has been with the Compass family since 6-grade. When she is not in class, she loves watching baseball, listening to music, baking, writing, playing video games, and spending time with her family. She also enjoys spending time with her teachers and peers in learning labs and meeting up with them on field trips. As a member and leader of the Scholar Leadership Council, Elizabeth hopes to make Compass a better learning environment for all scholars and the best school it can possibly be.



## **Airis Yueng- Council Member**

Airis is in 9-grade and has been with Compass since first grade and has loved every year! Being at Compass has allowed her to experience many opportunities, from playing the violin, piano, and cello to acting to traveling for field trips throughout California, and so much more! She loves to be a member of the Scholar Leadership Council because Compass has taught her that working together and helping each other makes for a better world/school, and she is honored to be a part of it.



## **Alexis Gordon- Council Member**

Alexis has been an online learner for eight years; the past five years have been with Compass. This is also her second year being a Student Leadership Council member. She strongly believes that the scholars should advise and contribute to their learning environment to help shape Compass into the best school it can possibly be.



## **Aure Ruediger- Council Member**

Aure has been with Compass since kindergarten and loves being a Firebird. There are many exciting opportunities she enjoys doing at Compass. For instance, she is in the Arts+Crafts Club, Chess Club, Cooking Club, Creative Writing Club, Lego Club, Minecraft Club, Photo Club, Sewing Club, and Virtual Field Trips Club. Outside of school, she enjoys growing guppies and bettas and ice skating. She would like to have a science degree like her Mom or an engineering degree like her Dad when she gets older.



## **Avery Stansbury- Council Member**

Avery is a 4-grade scholar at Compass Charter Schools. He has been part of the Compass family for three years. When he is not in learning labs and completing schoolwork, he enjoys playing the piano, reading and is determined to be a YouTube influencer. Avery is part of the SLC because he wants to represent his peers at Compass, help make the school a better place, and learn new leadership skills.



## **Cricht Ruediger- Council Member**

Cricht has been a member of Compass since kindergarten. He likes that he has sweet and helpful teachers. Cricht thinks it was epic to attend class remotely, with all his teachers and schoolmates living all over California! His hobbies include baking, creating art, fishkeeping, gardening, and playing video games. He also hopes to be in good business because both of his Grandfathers owned businesses of their own.

# ABOUT THE SCHOLAR LEADERSHIP COUNCIL, CONT.



## **Kate Vreeman- Council Member**

Kate is a seventh-grade Options Scholar and loves being a part of Compass! She has been homeschooling for seven years and loves to read, write, color, and go Jeeping. She is usually practicing viola, playing volleyball, or going cycling when she isn't in school. She loves to be very involved at Compass, helping her fellow peers, and supporting Compass in any way she can.



## **KristiLynn Effie- Council Secretary**

KristiLynn has been with Compass Charter Schools since 2014 and is a third-year member of the Student Leadership Council. She has a 4.0 GPA and is in the National Honors Society. As part of the SLC, she loves to be a voice for other scholars by giving ideas and feedback. She enjoys working on her schoolwork online, specifically English and Science. She strives to exceed and to be the best version of herself possible. Outside of her studies, KristiLynn has a passion for creative arts. She's also committed to volunteering within her community.



## **Lyric Hearne-Hooker- Council Member**

Lyric has been a proud Compass student since 5-grade. In two years, she hopes to be a graduate of Compass as well. Diversity and acceptance are very important to her, and by volunteering in my West Hollywood community, she hopes to demonstrate those principles. Here at Compass, she has served as President of the Virtual Field Trips Club, been on the Scholar Leadership Council since 9-grade, and currently serves as Co-VP of the NHS. Through Compass, she has also had the opportunity to earn a scholarship from the Carson Scholars Fund. She is busy running her Etsy shop in her spare time, specializing in recycled materials and green retail. Her dream career would allow her to thrive in a creative environment and travel the world.



## **Michael Effie- Council Vice-Chair**

Michael is a 12-grade scholar and has been with Compass Charter Schools since 2014. Alongside the Scholar Leadership Council, he is also the president of Compass National Honor Society, in which he prepares and leads meetings centered around volunteer opportunities and preparing for college. When he is not homeschooling, he volunteers within his community or engages in reading and watching movies. Michael has also worked as a professional actor, performing in films, television, commercials, and theater. He loves making Compass the best he can throughout his participation in the Scholar Leadership Council.



## **Madison Wilkes- Council Member**

Madison is in 6-grade and 11 years old. She joined the council because she loves to make improvements. She always has lots of good ideas and hopes to make a difference at Compass. Her hobbies include drawing, writing, and doing crafts. Madison is a proud Firebird!

# HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

The Scholar Leadership Council serves to provide scholar feedback on school policies and procedures at Compass Charter Schools to ensure that they are consistent with its mission, vision, and values. Members act as a committed group of advisors to the staff and administration regarding issues that affect their peer scholars at Compass. They provide feedback and insight from the scholar's perspective on school processes, policies, and initiatives to ensure that the needs of scholars are included as decisions are made. They also serve as an advisory, not a decision-making body, that makes recommendations, encourages brainstorming, and provides opportunities for scholar involvement on committees.

During the 2020-21 school year, the Scholar Leadership Council met on the second Tuesday of the month at 2 pm. At each meeting, recurring agenda items included hearing updates from the Superintendent and the opportunity to share scholar feedback on the Compass Experience with staff. There are several highlights from meetings this year:

The Scholarship Leadership Council:

- Provided input on the Learning Continuity & Learning Plan, which included asking staff to develop and host mental health workshops for scholars and their families.
- Elected their officers for the year. They were led by Elizabeth Christopher (chair), Michael Effie (vice-chair), and KristiLynn Effie (secretary).
- Heard from Mrs. Erin Smith, Director of Curriculum & Instruction, who shared an overview of new UC requirements, Options a-g courses, and Accelerate Education a-g online classes and proctoring. Council members had the opportunity to ask questions and provide feedback on courses and the proctoring set-up.
- Heard from Ms. Kiki Helton and Mrs. Mandi Shwartzberg, counselors, who led the council to discuss finding your motivation in challenging times.
- Launched their annual scholar survey and included questions this year on the support provided by Compass during the COVID-19 Pandemic.
- Spent time at each meeting in the Spring to review and analyze the results of the scholar survey.
- Based on their review of the scholar survey results, they recommended the following for the upcoming 2021-22 school year:





# HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR, CONT.

## Reconstruct & reorganize the Monday Morning Update by:

- Organize information by charter, program (Online & Options), and grade level (elementary, middle school, & high school).
- Include SLC information, such as meeting minutes from previous meetings and invitations to the public to join and participate in meetings.
- Consider a new or additional form of the MMU in video format.

## Improve the SLC by:

- Advertising the SLC in places like the MMU and learning labs.
- Reconsider and reorganize the topics and issues the SLC addresses from the beginning of the year. For example, a strong recommendation would be to discuss graduation plans by the start of the second semester, so there is time to consider graduation rates and celebrations.
- Introduce an end-of-year summary to present to the public (perhaps via the MMU).
- Re-word the SLC Scholar Survey by emphasizing how and why the SLC and Compass can and should make specific adjustments and improvements.
- Provided input on the Expanded Learning Opportunities Grant Plan, which included additional training opportunities for staff, hiring additional tutors, and hiring an additional counselor.
- Provided input on the 2021-24 Local Control & Accountability Plans, which included ideation on funds for staff training and opportunities for subscriptions for scholars in both the Online Learning and Options Learning programs.

# TEACHER OF THE YEAR

**CONGRATULATIONS SHARON ROSEN!**  
Mrs. Rosen was voted by scholars as  
**Scholars' Choice Employee of the Year!**

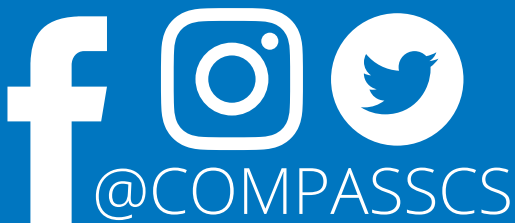


**Rosen is a beloved social studies teacher at Compass; listen to what some of her scholars and families have to say:**

"We could not have asked for a better homeroom teacher than Ms. Rosen! She is kind, engaging, supportive, and always there when we need her. I have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know her better during our monthly meetings and feel so lucky to have had her on our side during Elizabeth's high school years."

"Ms. Rosen rocks! I should know since I've had the pleasure to sit in on several of her learning labs, and she always plays good tunes before she starts. I find her learning labs very accurate, insightful, highly educational yet easy to understand. She makes learning fun! Thank you, Ms. Rosen!"

"Ms. Rosen is an absolute treasure, and I am so grateful to have had her as my teacher for these past few years! She teaches with excitement and compassion and never fails to make learning fun. I am extremely thankful for all of her kind words of encouragement and her astute insights; I will miss her dearly!"

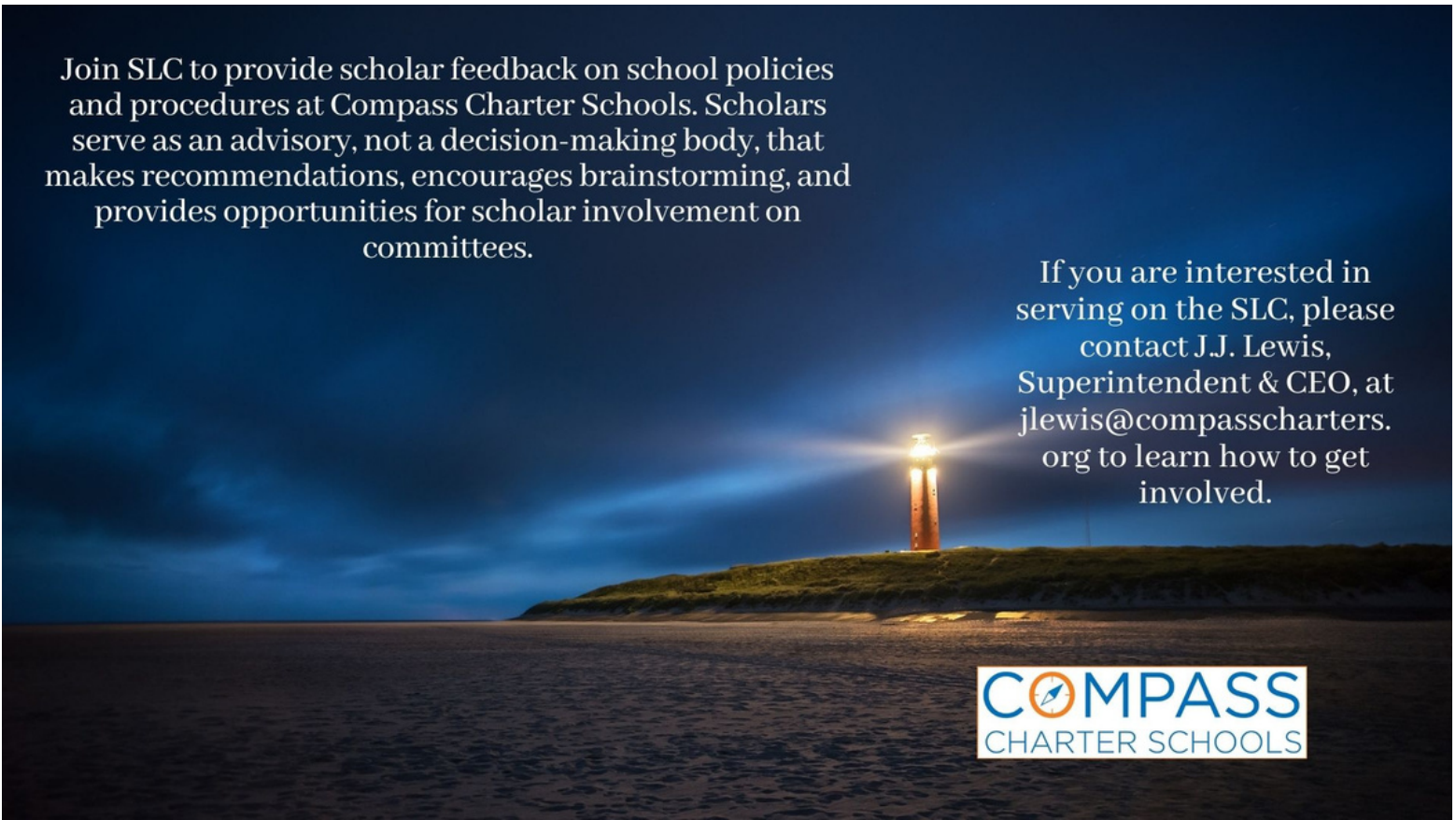


# JOIN THE SCHOLAR LEADERSHIP COUNCIL



Join SLC to provide scholar feedback on school policies and procedures at Compass Charter Schools. Scholars serve as an advisory, not a decision-making body, that makes recommendations, encourages brainstorming, and provides opportunities for scholar involvement on committees.

If you are interested in serving on the SLC, please contact J.J. Lewis, Superintendent & CEO, at [jlewis@compasscharters.org](mailto:jlewis@compasscharters.org) to learn how to get involved.



# COMPASS CHARTER SCHOOLS



# Proud Scholar

Compass Charter Schools

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