



Compass Charter Schools

Special Education

May 20

Special Education Program 2023/24 Overview

Compass provides special education and related services to approximately 360 scholars. Many of these scholars require related services such as speech, occupational therapy, physical therapy, various counseling services and other related services. Compass charters has contracted with various nonpublic agencies to provide these services in the past. Compass Currently contracts for over 780 individual services for scholars and utilizes 42 different Nonpublic agencies. In an effort to improve services to scholars, increase communication and facilitate a team of professional who provide services to our Compass Scholars with special needs, special education department is working with four agencies to provide the virtual related services and assessments for our scholars. These four agencies have work well with Compass and are willing to provide dedicated providers. Having less agencies and providers will increase communication, allow Compass to ensure students are assigned virtual services quickly and will provide more opportunities for collaboration between providers and Compass staff.



Special Education is proposing that Compass Contract with four main Nonpublic Agencies to provide virtual services to our scholars with special education needs. The Agencies proposed support the ARTIC values of Compass and are proven partners. It is recommended that Compass contract for special education related services for the 2023/34 school year with Specialized Therapy Services, Partners in Special Education (PSE) and Oxford Consulting Services for the virtual related services. It is also recommended to continue to contract with EL Paseo for psycho- educational and other related services assessments for the 2023/24 school year. Compass will continue to contract with about 12 other agencies who are currently providing in-person and unique services to our scholar's when unique needs arise that cannot be fulfilled by the four main agencies.



Program Specialist Position

For 2023/24 school year it is also proposes to add staff to support scholar success and compliance. A program specialist position is recommended who could support our educational specialists with service delivery, identifying research based methodology and materials. A program specialist could be a liaison with MTSS and the SST process to support Child Find. This position could assist with new enrollments by being the first to read the incoming IEPs and assist with identifying appropriate placements within Compass. General Education teachers have coaches available to support them with lesson planning, scholar supports, a program specialist could provide similar support to our educational specialists. For 2023/34 school year Compass will also be adding new standards based functional/modified curriculum to meet the needs of our scholars with significant disabilities who require a modified program. The Program Specialists will be able to work with both general education and special education teachers to implement the new curriculum to support our scholars and Learning Coaches.



Special Education Clerical Support

Special Education would also recommend hiring a clerk to support with data collection, scholar data input, SEIS and CALPADS data input.

Currently, these duties are shared by the Special Education technician, two Special Education Coordinators and the Director. Having a dedicated staff member would help improve data accuracy and compliance.

These two positions would be in place of hiring a speech therapist and psychologist for Compass. As Compass grows, it is recommended to analyze the fiscal and programmatic impact to hiring internal staff for assessments and related services, such as school psychologists, speech therapists, occupational therapists and counselors.

