



CEO Report
September 25, 2017

Great work is happening throughout the organization. This report is meant to highlight several of the functional areas with updates for the Board of Directors:

Academic Affairs

- Our Orange County Learning Center (OCLC), located in Santa Ana, opened in August as part of our CCS of San Diego charter. The OCLC houses two communities for academic learning and support, and is available for enrichment opportunities for our scholars in the area.
- We hosted virtual Welcome Back Nights for new and returning scholars and learning coaches at the end of August. These were hour-long programs, meant to set the tone for the upcoming school year, introduce our new systems, and left room for a Q&A with those in attendance. They were recorded and those recordings were shared with all of our scholars, learning coaches, and staff.
- Curriculum Review Committees have been formed, to work with StrongMind to provide input and feedback on courses that are being created and courses being redesigned.
- Scholars have been given @scholars.compasscharters.org eMail addresses, which are used to access the StrongMind PSP (Parent Scholar Portal), i-Ready, and several other educational systems which are offered by CCS.
- Counseling Services is hosting a number of workshops and presentations for our 6th-12th-grade scholars in September:
 - Road to Respect Workshop - High School (September 18/19)
 - Freshman Presentations (September 22)
 - Road to Respect Workshop - Middle School (September 25-26)
 - College & Career Success Cafe (September 26)
 - Topic: How to communicate during a college fair
 - College Road Trip Series (September 27)
 - Topic: Scholarships? Where do I begin?
 - Senior Presentations (September 28)
- Our Special Education Department is growing. We have added an instructor with a mild/moderate credential to best serve the needs of our incoming scholars. The team is also working to add and expand our service providers to continue supporting our scholars.

Information Services

- A total of 1,050 scholars are enrolled in our Track A, which started on September 5th. Last year, 860 scholars were enrolled in Track A.
- We successfully transitioned to a new Student Information System with the support StrongMind. We imported scholar enrollment, academic, and

demographic information to streamline our reporting and records keeping systems. This move to a unitary system will allow us better serve our scholars.

- Two initial California English Language Development Test (CELDT) assessments will be administered as required within 30 days of enrollment for scholars who identified their primary language as other than English. This is the last year for this testing system and we will be transitioning to the English Proficiency Assessments for California (ELPAC). Our plan is to administer and coordinate with CAASPP in order to improve our participation rate.
- We were selected to participate in the National Teacher and Principal Survey (NTPS). The purpose of the NTPS is to provide policymakers and researchers with relevant and timely data on the characteristics and conditions of America's public schools and the professionals who work in them. The data collected permit detailed analyses of the characteristics of schools, principals, teachers, and students.
- We participated in the California Charter Schools Association (CCSA) Fall Data Campaign (FDC), where they collect critical data from the more than 1,200 charter schools across California to advance their mission. CCSA uses the data to educate the public about charter schools and advocate at the local-level and State Capitol on your behalf, particularly on funding, facilities, and special education, among other important issues.

Operations

- Organizational changes have transpired since the last meeting. *See enclosed worksheet.*
- Investment ladder has matured with JP Morgan Chase. We have rolled these funds over per policy. *See enclosed portfolio report.*
- The Finance, Human Resources, and IT Departments are in process of moving to a digital format (no white paper). This will make all these departments more efficient and will also result in both time and cost savings for the school.

Strategic Initiatives

- Our website was completely redesigned over the summer and is updated on a regular basis. This redesign improves functionality for our families as well as provide improvements for SEO monitoring and tracking.
- CCSS participated in a number of recruiting fairs and marketing events, including the Summer Movie Fest at Cal State Northridge, Home School Association of California Convention (we were a platinum-level sponsor), ValleyPBS Pledge Night, Clovis Movie Night, Back to School ValleyPBS Station Experience, Valley PBS Kids Nite at the Fresno Zoo (we were the presenting sponsor), San Diego Ultimate Women's Expo, Mexican Independence Day Parade in Oxnard, Central California Women's Conference, and Clovis Night Out.
- We celebrated Back to School with simultaneously held picnics in San Diego, Riverside, Fresno and LA. *See enclosed press release.*
- Scholars have been invited to take pictures with their downloaded, self-decorated image of the Compass Firebird during all of their summer adventures. They have

been uploading them to our social media channels and each month, one is randomly selected to win two free movie tickets.

- Scholars are being invited to write lyrics and make music to create the official school spirit song. We're looking for an original, catchy song that highlights our core values and celebrates our Compass community.
- Scholars are beginning to use the Community board in the StrongMind PSP to build connections with other scholars within the school and participate in our scholar-led clubs.
- The first *Compass Chronicle* newsletters of the year went out for Elementary School, Middle School, High School and Options families. The newsletter highlighted important events as well as spotlighted some families, staff and scholars. *See enclosed newsletters.*

Miscellaneous

- We successfully hosted our in-person All-Staff Retreat July 31st -August 4th in San Diego. We spent a majority of this week learning and training on the new StrongMind system from StrongMind staff, as well as workshops on HR & IT, Audit 101 by Christy White Associates, and department and division time. We also hosted a blood drive for staff and guests at Paradise Point on Friday, August 4th in partnership with The American Red Cross.
- Through the AVID School to AVID School initiative, we adopted Thompson Intermediate School in Houston, which was severely impacted by Hurricane Harvey. *See enclosed press release.*
- I am honored to continue my service on the El Dorado County Charter SELPA's CEO Executive Committee, and to have been recently named to the Editorial Board for *The Charter Schools Resource Journal* out of Central Michigan University.
- Crystal Villegas, one of our elementary teachers, was selected to present at the recent i-Ready User Summit. Her presentation was "Tapping into the Heart: Applying Principles of Social Emotional Learning for i-Ready Success." *See enclosed press release.*
- We reformed the Staff Advisory Committee, which is an opportunity to share what each area of the school is doing and working on, and discuss and collaborate on ways to work together to best serve our scholars.

A lot of great work is taking place, thanks to our dedicated staff, to continue to improve the educational experience we provide our scholars. My thanks to our team for everything they do each and every day.

Respectfully Submitted,



J.J. Lewis
President & CEO