

Compass Chronicle

Online Elementary School | September 2017

Welcome Back CCS! This newsletter is full of important information and exciting updates about our school. We will share the Compass Chronicle with you every month to help keep you informed and stay connected with us. Enjoy!



Welcome Back Learning Coaches and Scholars!

We are very excited to welcome our new and returning scholars at Compass for the 2017-18 school year. On behalf of myself and all of our teachers, we are honored to have the privilege of serving your family. We look forward to spending the year working with you. We have a great year planned for all of our families!

Sincerely,

Steven Thompson, Elementary School Coordinator

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[@CCSMrThompson](https://www.instagram.com/CCSMrThompson)



What's New in Elementary School?

We have a great deal of new and exciting things happening in Elementary School!



Over the summer two of our Elementary School scholars, [Clara M.](#) and [Matthew S.](#), won the #CCSFirebird photo contest!

This month our scholars are invited to participate in an art contest hosted by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) to promote road safety. [Click here](#) to learn more about the art contest and how to enter.

Our scholars and learning coaches are also invited to enter the **CCS School Spirit Song Contest!** We are encouraging all of our families to write lyrics and make music to create our new school spirit song! [Click here](#) to learn more and enter.

Looking ahead, this year we are hosting a **lunch bunch group** every Wednesday. During each session Mr. Thompson will guide the scholars through an activity. Then in October we will have our very first **Friday Funk Fest**. On the first Friday of each month we will have a special live session.

For our Learning Coaches we are reading the book Growth Mindset until December, and then we will read The Art Of Possibility from January to June. More details will come from Mr. Thompson.

Are you looking for additional resources to support your scholars? [Watch this video](#) about the Growth Mindset to learn how to help your child fulfill their potential.

For additional resources, visit our [Academic Resources](#) and our [Elementary School YouTube Channel](#).





Coaches' Corner

We had a great time at our Back-to-School Picnics and a wonderful kick-off to the Coaches' Corner while we were there! Thank you to everyone who attended and helped lead the first session. We look forward to getting to know our wonderful CCS learning coaches more over the upcoming months during our online Coaches' Corner sessions.

We have some great topics already planned to get the year started but would also love to hear from YOU! So if you haven't already, please complete this short survey by **Friday, September 22nd**: <http://tinyurl.com/Coaches-Corner-Feedback>

Have questions about Coaches' Corner? Contact Karle Roberts, Family Engagement Coordinator at kroberts@compasscharters.org.

Elementary School Staff Spotlight

This month we are featuring Katie Hooper. She teaches Kindergarten and first grade. She loves licorice and gummy bears. For fun she enjoys going to the beach and watching her girls play in the pool.



We are also featuring Michelle Kenbeek who teaches fourth and fifth grade scholars at CCS. She earned her Bachelors in Liberal Studies and Masters in Teaching with a Concentration in Language Arts from San Diego State University. Michelle has been teaching at CCS since August 2013 and loves connecting with the families and helping her scholars be successful in the online environment. She enjoys individualized learning and inspiring scholar success. Outside of school, Michelle likes to eat chips and guacamole, attend country concerts, and go to the beach.



The Compass Blog



[Independent Study Programs Help Scholars Successfully Transition Into the Workplace](#)



[A Word From Our CEO.](#)



[6 Tips for a Successful College Visit](#)

The Special Education Team

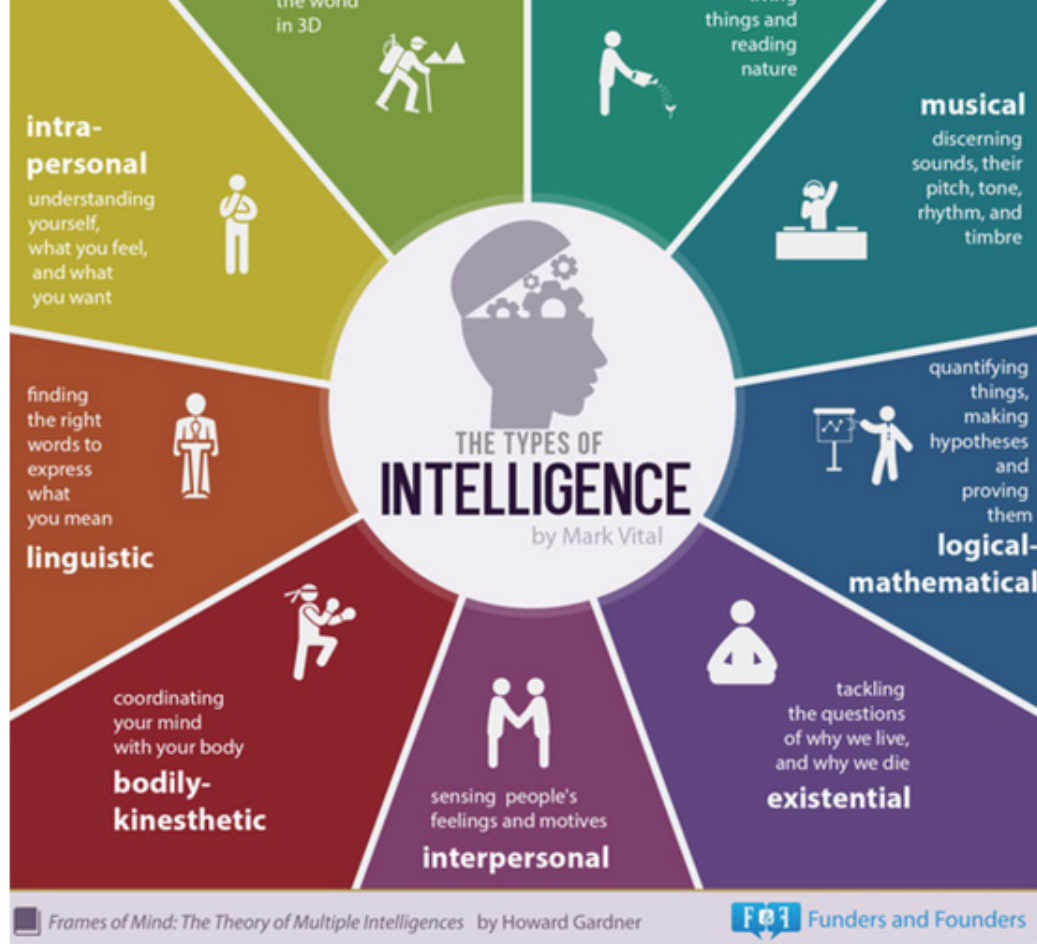
We are excited to be growing our Special Education team and we are ready to assist the scholars! As a kind reminder, we ask that scholars attend both their general education courses, learning labs, and their special education service meetings.

Please join us in welcoming **Lori Greenwell** to our Compass Special Education Team! Lori has a moderate/severe special education credential. She attended Cal Poly Pomona and received her graduate certification from U.H. Manoa in Hawaii. Lori loves her two remarkable daughters, Kalei and Amanda. Teaching has been her lifelong passion along with ranching. She also has many four-footed members of her family. Lori feels fortunate to be joining the highly skilled Compass Charter Schools family and we are thrilled to have her as well!



As a reminder, our Special Education team provides the following for our scholars with IEPs:

- **SAI sessions** from 9:30 am - 12:30 pm as assigned in math, written language, reading and transitional services. During these SAI sessions, scholars receive direct instruction to support their IEP goals.
- **Morning Starter** from 8:30-9:30 am for a daily check-in to support scholars in task management and executive functioning. Supported Learning is offered for scholars requiring additional scaffolding in their academic lessons.
- **Scholar Resource Center (SRC)** is open for "drop-in" support from 12:30-3:00 pm to assist with written assignments, projects, science labs, and math coursework.



Do you know your child's learning style? Each child has a specific mode or combination of modes in which they learn best.

- **Visual Learners:** learn best by seeing flash cards, visual images, matching games, pictures and diagrams, puzzles, watching someone do something, printed material, charts, pictures, posters, wall strips, desk tapes, video tapes, and computer programs.
- **Auditory Learners:** learn best by hearing and benefit most from cassette tapes, lectures, educational songs and rhymes, rhythm instruments, recitation, singing and reading aloud.
- **Kinesthetic Learners:** learn best by doing and touching from activities such as long nature walks, hands-on math and science kits, yard work, gardening, textured puzzles and manipulatives, typing instead of writing, drama, dance, lab experiments, and building models.
- **Social Learners:** learn best by interacting with others through one-on-one conversations, discussions, and group participation.

In addition to your scholar's preferred learning style, each scholar is believed to have multiple intelligences. It is good to be aware of your scholar's many intelligences. A good book to read on this topic is, "Multiple Intelligences: The Theory in Practice," by Howard Gardner. [Click here](#) to share a free quiz with your child to help them identify their own multiple intelligence, and enjoy [The Multiple Intelligences](#) song as well!

Enrollment Team Staff Spotlight

This month we hear from **Vanessa Plascencia, Enrollment Coordinator**, at CCS.



CCS: What do you enjoy about working on the enrollment team?

Vanessa: My favorite part about working on the enrollment team, and CCS overall, is that we have built such a unique family. Everyone supports each other and does their best to help support our scholars/ families.

CCS: How long have you been working at CCS?

Vanessa: I have been with CCS for almost three years!

CCS: What drew you to work in education? Would you like to share your background in education?

Vanessa: I have always enjoyed helping others throughout my time in school. I have a great passion for working with kids and families to ensure that they receive opportunities to be successful! Previously, I worked for the Oxnard School District as a Paraeducator, Instructional Assistant, and administered CELDT testing.

CCS: Is there anything unique about you that you'd like our families to know?

Vanessa: I am the oldest of three children. My siblings and I are around ten years apart.

CCS: What is one random fact about you that we should know?

Vanessa: I love pineapples. Someone here at Compass explained to me that pineapples are a symbol of being welcoming. I think that represents who I am as a person. I welcome everyone and look forward to creating a bond with each person I meet.

CCS: What do you love most about working at CCS?

Vanessa: I love working collaboratively with everyone at CCS to ensure that we make the best decisions for each and every one of our scholars!

Compass News



[Compass Charter Schools \(CCS\) Hosted Back-to-School Picnics to Start the](#)



[Compass Charter Schools \(CCS\) Adopts a Houston School in Need Following](#)



[Compass Charter Schools \(CCS\) Announces August Winner of its #CCSFirebird](#)




September

Sept 16th ~ Heal the Bay at Torrance Beach (Register by Sept 12th)

Sept 20th ~ LA County Fair (Register by Sept 12th)

Sept 22th ~ Club Rush (Scholar Clubs Kick-Off) - Virtual Enrichment Event

Sept 25th ~ Fresno Chaffee Zoo (Register by Sept 11th)

Sept 26th ~ Fleet Center (Register by Sept 18th)

Sept 28th ~ The Sawdust Factory (Register by Sept 13th)

October

Oct 12th ~ San Diego Zoo (Register by Sept 25th)

Oct 13th ~ Big Fresno Fair (Register by Sept 28th)

Oct 16th ~ Magic Mountain Homeschool Day (Register by Sept 29th)

Oct 17th ~ Fine Art Class at Mission:Renaissance (Ages 5 to 12) (Register by Oct 2nd)

Oct 19th ~ Time Travelers Education Day at Fresno Civil War Revisited (Register by Oct 2nd)

Oct 19th ~ The Autry Museum (Register by Oct 3rd)

Oct 20th ~ Monterey Bay Aquarium (Register by Sept 28th)

Oct 23rd to 27th ~ Spirit Week

Oct 23rd ~ Amy's Pumpkin Patch (Register by Oct 9th)

Oct 24th ~ Pa's Pumpkin Patch (Register by Oct 9th)

Oct 25th ~ Underwood Family Farms (Register by Oct 10th)

Oct 26th ~ Hillcrest Family Farms (Register by Oct 11th)

Oct 27th ~ Oma's Pumpkin Patch (Register by Oct 12th)

Oct 31st ~ Harvest Celebration (Register by Oct 17th)

November

Nov 1st ~ San Diego Archaeological Center (Register by Oct 17th)

Nov 2nd ~ Lost Realms Pets (Register by Oct 18th)

Nov 2nd ~ Moorpark Zoo Presentation and Tour (Register by Oct 18th)

Nov 3rd ~ CCS Scholar Talent Show

Nov 7th ~ Museum of Tolerance (MS & HS Only) (Register by Sept 15th)

Nov 9th ~ Legoland (Register by Oct 11th)

Nov 14th ~ The Discovery Center - Fresno (Register by Oct 30th)

Nov 16th ~ Long Beach Airport Tour (Register by Nov 1st)

Nov 29th ~ Bates Nut Farm (Register by Nov 14th)

To view more information and register for CCS events, visit our website calendar:

<https://www.compasscharters.org/calendar/>

Comments



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.




Compass Charter Schools

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Visit our [website](#) for more information about our academic programs. Or, contact Steven Thompson, Elementary School Coordinator, at sthompson@compasscharters.org.

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