

Compass Chronicle

Online High School | Fall 2018

Fall brings the fall leaves, football, and a time to be thankful for those we love.

The high school team is thankful for our hard-working scholars and committed learning coaches who have been striving for success this fall semester. As families and homeroom teachers have met during parent/teacher conferences, scholars have set both short term and long term goals to ensure our CCS scholars exemplify all of our ARTIC core values: Achievement, Respect, Teamwork, Integrity, and Communication.

Teachers and scholars have all enjoyed engaging learning labs that have included philosophical chairs, collaborative group work, and literature analysis to explore each aspect of their courses. Scholars are thriving in their courses by incorporating focused note-taking to study for exams and complete projects. The high school team is thankful for the hard work and success that our CCS high schools are having this fall!



Sincerely,

Janae Smith, High School Coordinator

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WHAT'S NEW IN HIGH SCHOOL?

This has been a busy fall for our online scholars. Our 9th-grade scholars have been participating in AVID tutorials and weekly AVID learning labs. Each week, the 9th-grade scholars complete a tutorial request to prepare for their AVID tutorials. During these tutorials, scholars and the tutor work together to help answer challenging questions. The additional support scholars receive is paying off! Scholars are understanding those hard concepts and doing well on their exams.

Along with AVID tutorials, our scholars who are taking physical science, biology, chemistry, and physics have attended our live, in-person science labs to earn their a-g credit for their science lab requirements. Scholars have determined the rate of diffusion, analyzed chemical reactions, and studied motion and waves during these full day labs. Not only do the scholars get to participate in labs, but they work together in their groups creating friendships that go beyond the virtual classroom.

As we look ahead at the end of the fall semester, there are exciting opportunities coming for our high school scholars. The first is the AVID Leadership Conference, which will be held in January at California State University, Long Beach. Our 9th-grade AVID scholars who applied will have the unique experience of attending this conference and tour the college campus. They even get to attend a college basketball game! Also, scholars who like to perform and write will have the opportunity to participate in our Poetry Out Loud competition and compete for a chance to represent CCS in the Los Angeles competition. We look forward to seeing our scholars take advantage of these unique and fun opportunities!



SCHOLAR SPOTLIGHT

This month our scholar spotlight is Gio C., a 10th grader

CCS: We know that often with our scholars that each day is different, but what would a typical day look like for you and your scholar?

LC: Each morning, Gio wakes up and takes care of our two dogs, Indie and Evie, before starting his coursework. He often has a small breakfast and attends a live session class before working on his assignments. I run errands and tend to our household, while periodically checking in on him to answer any questions he may have. We often have lunch together, talk about his classes and watch an episode of *Parks and Recs* before he goes back into his room to complete his assignments. Gio is often done around 3pm and socializes with his friends until we have dinner. During dinner, we discuss his day and what he is currently learning. Gio then watches his favorite shows, completes his evening chores and goes to bed.

CCS: What has been your greatest joy in schooling your scholar at home?

LC: The greatest joy of schooling Gio at home is getting to see his development. It is truly rewarding to know that I am part of his educational and social-emotional learning process.

CCS: Share a challenge that you have experienced as a learning coach and how you have worked to overcome the challenge.

LC: I frequently face the same challenge, guiding Gio without giving him the answers. It takes effort to get Gio to arrive at his own answers, instead of simply telling him what I think or know. I often ask Gio what he thinks is right and then ask him why he thinks that. I, then, use his answers to help guide him and give him feedback.

CCS: Why did you decide to school from home with Compass Charter Schools?

LC: I decided to school from home with Compass Charter School because I felt that it would give our family the ability to personalize Gio's education. We wanted him to feel invested and responsible for his education. We wanted him to figure out how he learns best and that was not likely to happen in a traditional classroom.

CCS: What do you enjoy most about being part of our Compass community?

LC: What I most enjoy about being part of the Compass Community is having a variety of options. There are labs, field trips and activities that we can choose to be part of but I also have the opportunity to support Gio's learning on my own.

CCS: Share a piece of advice you'd give to a parent thinking about taking their child out of school to school at home?

LC: The greatest piece of advice I could give to any parent considering homeschooling is to know and respect your child. Homeschool is not for every child and/or family. It requires a unique type of commitment and dedication from both the scholar and the learning coach.

CCS: What do you, your scholar and the family enjoy doing together during your free time?

LC: We enjoy hanging out, eating and watching TV with friends and family when we get some free time.

STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Alyssa Ginn, History and AVID Electives Teacher

CCS: Where did you attend college and earn your degrees/credential?

Alyssa: I attended Saint Mary's College and earned my Bachelor of Arts and Teaching Credential. I attended San Francisco State University and earned my Master of Arts in History.

CCS: How many years have you worked in education?

Alyssa: This is my seventh year of teaching.

CCS: What were you doing before you joined CCS?

Alyssa: Before I joined CCS, I worked for a different online charter school.

CCS: How long have you been part of Compass?

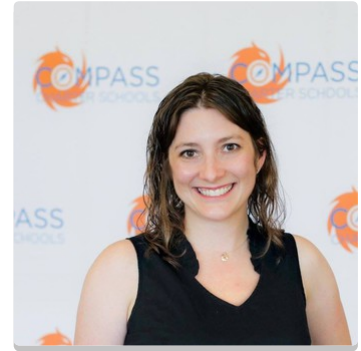
Alyssa: This is my third year at Compass.

CCS: If you could travel anywhere on vacation, where would you go?

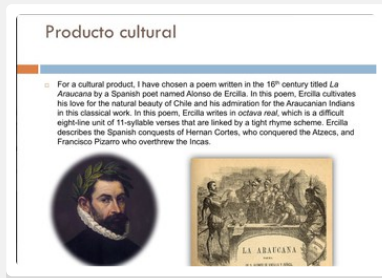
Alyssa: Somewhere in Europe, but I can't decide between Portugal, Scotland or France.

CCS: Please share one fun fact about yourself.

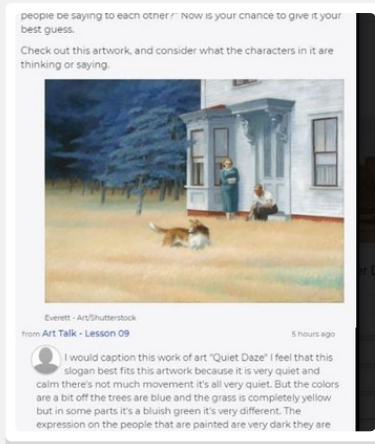
Alyssa: I love to plan trips! Even if I don't take them, I love the planning!



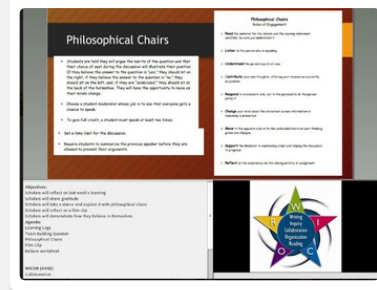
SCHOLAR WORK SAMPLES



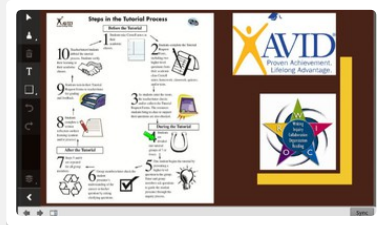
For Spanish 1, our high school scholars, Alicia L. (grade 11) and Aiden G. (grade 9), created a multimedia research presentation about a Spanish-speaking culture and a cultural product. They used an instructional outline, followed directions, completed extensive research, and composed the presentation on their own.



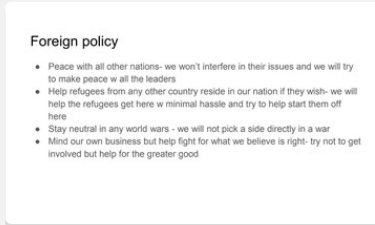
Scholars in Art History discuss beautiful pieces of art work.



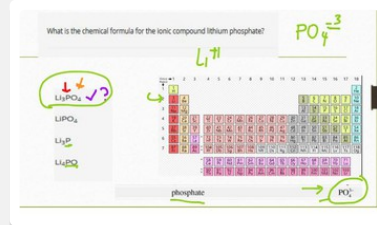
Scholars in AVID increased their critical thinking skills by participating in philosophical chairs.



AVID tutorials started this fall with scholars collaborating with their tutor to get additional support



In government, 12th grader Ava D. created a presentation for the country she would create. See her foreign policy she would put into place if she ran her own country:



Chemistry scholars review chemical compounds in learning lab with Ms. Woodley



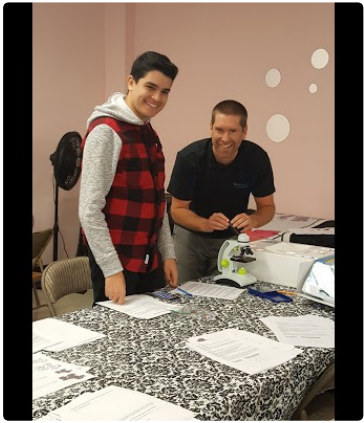
Hailey, Trinity, and Noa sit back and wait for the chemical reaction at the Los Angeles science lab.



Julian works hard to complete all of his data for his science lab.



Mr. Spink gets the scholars started at the science labs



Mr. Spink and Gevorg work on a biology lab.

SHARE YOUR STORY

Comments

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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Visit our [website](#) for more information about our academic programs. Or, contact Janae Smith, High School Coordinator, at jsmith@compasscharters.org.

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