



Superintendent's Report
September 24, 2018

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:

Business Services

- Finance:
 - In the upcoming months, several long-term contract will come to an end, including copier leases, postage meter, and mobile phone (equipment only). We will be evaluating the use and cost for all of these and determining the value of replacing at a lower cost or eliminating where possible.
 - Investment ladder has matured with JP Morgan Chase. We have rolled these funds over per policy. *See enclosed portfolio report.*
- Information Technology:
 - ZoHo Help Desk has been upgraded which now allows help tickets to be submitted by staff and scholars separately, allowing analytics to be used to a greater extent and with much more proficiency.
- Human Resources:
 - SafeSchools is our new platform for mandatory staff training. In addition to required annual training courses, the platform offers many other training webinars that all staff have the ability to view. The SafeSchools platform is provided by our insurance carrier, NIAC, at no cost.
 - We will be using the Employee Satisfaction Survey in BambooHR for the first time on September 30th. The survey asks two questions: "How likely are you to recommend CCS as a place to work on a scale of 0-10?" and then asks a follow up question for why they gave the score they did. BambooHR provides an extensive dashboard where the leadership team can easily see trends and read specific feedback.
 - Organizational changes have transpired since the last meeting. *See enclosed worksheet.*
- Operations:
 - We offered two summer sessions, one starting on July 3rd and the other on July 30th. The participation for session A included 61 non-CCS scholars; 24 in session B; and 34 that participated in both (not included in previous counts). We are projecting 73% ADA for session A and 90% for session B.
 - As of September 17th, our enrollment was at 1,255 scholars! 540 are part of the Online program, while 715 are part of the Options program.
 - We have implemented new internal assessment tools, Istation for scholars in grades TK-8, and Galileo for scholars in grades 9-12. The Galileo assessment is embedded into the content of courses our online courses. Our goal is to

increase our participation rates and obtain reliable data to best support the academic performance of our scholars.

Personalized Learning

- Counseling Services:
 - We will be a participant in The California College Application and Success Campaign (CCASC). The CCASC is part of a nationwide movement led by the American Council of Education to increase the number of first-generation scholars from low-income families who pursue post-secondary education. The primary purpose of this effort is to help our high school seniors navigate the complex college admissions process and ensure they apply to at least one post-secondary institution.
 - The team kicked-off their Counseling with Compass Live at the Orange County Learning Center in Santa Ana. With the introduction of Counseling with Compass Live, counselors will have an opportunity to build stronger connections with our scholars and families to provide in person counseling services we typically only provide virtually throughout the academic school year.
- Engagement:
 - We kicked off the school year by hosting five Back to School Picnics across the state. Picnics were held in Clovis, Thousand Oaks, Riverside, Costa Mesa and San Diego on Friday, September 7th. Combining all picnics together, we had approximately 275 staff, scholars, learning coaches and guests attend our picnics.
 - We held our first Virtual Scholar Workshop for the school year last Tuesday, September 11th. Captain Douglas J. Bradt, U.S. Navy (Retired), shared about his career along with practical applications of academics to scholar's futures. Coordination was made with the USS Midway Museum and Capt. Douglas Bradt used a webcam and microphone to present from aboard the USS Midway. Virtual Scholar Workshops provide scholars with an opportunity to experience enrichment from the comfort of their homes which helps increase our LCAP goal of scholar engagement. The plan is for these to occur bi-monthly through the year.
 - We have 22 scholar-led clubs planned for the 2018-19 school year, and we are excited to have scholars able to select the clubs that they would like to participate in at the Virtual Club Kick Off event. Scholar-led Clubs include Photography, Skateboarding, Chess, Creative Writing, Esports, and many more.
- Exceptional Scholar Services:
 - The department has a growing team and with this new team, more innovative processes for scholar support are in the works.
 - We have increased our scholar count by over 40 scholars with IEP's since the start of the school year.

- Online Learning:
 - The AVID program will soon be expanding to all grade levels. For high school scholars, the AVID Elective is now an a-g approved course. Professional development and mentoring will soon be provided for our elementary and middle school teachers so that they can introduce AVID strategies to their scholars during learning labs and one-on-one support sessions. The AVID culture encourages scholars to begin thinking about and preparing for life after school, which helps close the opportunity gap before it begins.
 - StrongMind has made a change to their learning management system (LMS). This is the system that allows our online scholar to access the content, grades, resources of their classes. The system is Canvas-based.
- Options Learning:
 - We currently have over 650 approved vendors from San Diego to Fresno that are available for the use of instructional funds by our Options scholars. Our partnerships continue to grow to support the educational needs of the scholars in this program.

Executive

- We successfully hosted our in-person All-Staff Retreat August 8th 11th in Palm Springs. We spent a majority of our time in department and division sessions, creating mission statements and goals for the year. Our new committees also met, creating their mission statements and goals they wish to complete by the end of the school year. We also put together 30 backpacks and donated them to our CCS of Fresno authorizer, Orange Center School District.
- 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.
- CCS participated in a number of recruiting fairs and marketing events, including Valley PBS Dog Days of Summer (we were the presenting sponsor), Back to School Bash in Thousand Oaks, California Homeschool Network Family Expo and Homeschool Fair in Ontario, ValleyPBS Phone Bank, and ValleyPBS Zoo Nite (we were the presenting sponsor).
- The first *Compass Chronicle* newsletters of the year will go out for Elementary School, Middle School, High School and Options families this Thursday, September 27th. The newsletter will highlight back to school updates, important events as well as spotlighted some families, staff and scholars. *See enclosed newsletter.*
- I am honored to continue my service on the El Dorado County Charter SELPA's CEO Executive and Selection Committees, Digital Learning Collaborative, Digital Learning Annual Conference Advisory Committee, and the Editorial Board for *The Charter Schools Resource Journal* out of Central Michigan University.

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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J.J. Lewis". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "J.J." and the last name "Lewis" clearly distinguishable.

J.J. Lewis
Superintendent & CEO