



Compass High School



Dear Friends,

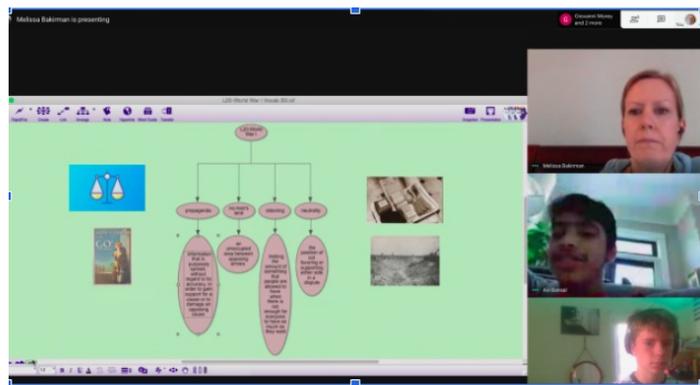
Compass High School hopes that your loved ones and you are healthy and safe! In the midst of great uncertainty, communities have come together to support and care for each other. The Compass community has truly stepped up to the plate to ensure that our students and families continue to receive high quality education, resources and social engagement. We'd like to highlight some of the positive things happening.

Sincerely,
Doug Killin
Head of School

Distance Learning Success for High School Students with Learning Differences

In response to COVID-19, Compass closed campus on March 11, 2020. Staff collaborated and quickly

pivoted to launch distance learning through Google Hangouts and a variety of other applications. Originally, students and faculty prepared to be off campus for two to three weeks. By early April, it was apparent that campus would remain closed through June.



Many schools have struggled to migrate to on-line learning. Due to Compass's small class size (five to ten students per class), the transition to virtual classrooms has been smooth. The quality of instruction and small group setting

makes Compass more effective than it can be with 25 to 40 students trying to learn in a similar setting. Teachers have a positive rapport with each student and understand their learning profiles. They have techniques to check-in and re-engage a distracted student in person and on-line. Assistive technology and learning techniques are automatically integrated into the virtual classroom to help students learn in the way that works best for their unique profile. Because each student has a MacBook that they took home during the school closure, Compass was able to successfully eliminate technology access challenges. Doug Killin, Head of School, says, "Instruction and independent work has been altered to successfully allow students to work on-line. Feedback is immediate. Students and teachers showcase, discuss and work through lessons and projects together. Students show work in progress via their screens, so classmates and teachers can provide feedback in real time."

After the first week of classes, Compass collected valuable information from parents, students and teachers. The schedule was modified to meet students' needs by shortening online classes and integrating more independent off-screen time for students to complete assignments and check-in with teachers. Office hours are held for two hours during each afternoon and weekly school assemblies are hosted online. Students continue to meet with their peers in virtual study groups, and the school psychotherapist is available to check-in with students and families. This has helped to maintain school spirit and connectivity during this period of uncertainty.

Compass High School is currently accepting applications for the 2020-2021 school year. For more information, go to www.compasshigh.org or contact Shannon LeCompte, Director of Admission at Compass (slecompte@compasshigh.org or 650-720-4248 ex 210).



Compass Student Gives Back

During shelter-in-place, many people have tried to find ways to support first responders fighting on the front lines of COVID-19. Cole, a student at Compass High School, and his family were very concerned for medical workers

due to the national shortage of protective gear. In response, his dad talked to the family about ways they could help. They had access to a 3-D printer at home and researched ways to print medical masks. They discovered a model by Dr. Christopher Wiles, a resident at UConn and Hartford Hospital. Wiles created the COVID Pandemic Mask and shared the design on thingiverse.com. The mask is lightweight, reusable and comes in various sizes. Cole's family contacted their local hospital and asked if they had a need for masks. The hospital asked them to please send whatever they had.

On average, it takes eight to nine hours to print one mask. Cole's family has been printing two masks a day for the last week. Once they have a large amount, they plan to donate the masks to an organization that distributes medical supplies to hospitals in need.



Compass High School

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A COLLEGE PREPARATORY PROGRAM DESIGNED FOR STUDENTS WITH
DYSLEXIA * DYSGRAPHIA * DYSCALCULIA* ADHD * ANXIETY

**JOIN US TO LEARN ABOUT OUR
DISTANCE LEARNING &
ON-CAMPUS PROGRAMS**

VIRTUAL WELCOME WEDNESDAY!

**APRIL 22, 2020
9 -10 AM**

SAN MATEO, CA
RSVP

<https://compasshigh.org/admissions/admissions-calendar>

Be on the lookout for...

WORKSHOP FOR PARENTS & TEENS

**NAVIGATING
COLLEGE
UNKNOWNNS
WITH
DR. CAROL**

May 6, 2020 | 4:30-5 PM
Compass High School

Connect with us or offer your review of Compass

