



# Compass High School

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[www.compasshigh.org](http://www.compasshigh.org)

## FAQs Document

### Why is Compass moving?

Compass is the leading high school on the Peninsula devoted to students who learn differently. In the past several years, we have seen enrollment grow. In addition, we want to expand our offerings. The increased space at Cuvilly Hall on the Notre Dame de Namur University (NDNU) campus provides the ability to do this. Both our students and our faculty will benefit from the increased space.

### Why did you choose Notre Dame de Namur?

There are several reasons:

- NDNU was founded 170 years ago by the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur to provide excellent professional and liberal arts programs to its students. NDNU is a diverse and inclusive learning community that challenges each member to consciously apply values and ethics in his or her personal, professional and public life. We felt the NDNU mission and core values closely matched how we view the education and experience we provide our students.
- The campus itself is one of the most physically appealing areas in the entire Bay Area. The green space, towering eucalyptus trees and beautiful buildings immediately impart a sense of calmness and belonging. That is what we want our students to experience every day. We are excited about the facilities that NDNU offers.

- The campus is close to public transportation. Most of our students take the train or bus to and from school. The Caltrain station and SamTrans bus line have stops within easy walking distance of the school.
- In addition, there are other benefits. For example, there are university services that we are talking to NDNU about taking advantage of. These include a lunch service and access to recreation areas. Stay tuned for more details!

### **Will this change the way Compass teaches?**

Since its inception nearly 10 years ago, Compass has focused on students who learn differently. Our mission has always been to create a program (*Compass Roadmap to Success™*) that is flexible enough to build around a students' strengths while supporting any learning challenges.

We have seen the results of our methodology of education. Compass students gain academic, social and personal skills, enabling them to go on to 2-year and 4-year colleges or certificate programs, and eventually lead independent and productive lives.

We have no intention of changing our basic theories and practices of education. However, we feel the NDNU campus will enable us to better work with our students in a beautiful and peaceful environment devoted to learning.

### **What is the Compass Roadmap to Success™ model and how will it benefit from this move?**

Compass serves students who learn differently. Put simply, Compass recognizes that a student's academic, personal, and social background can vary based upon natural abilities and experiences. The Compass team, along with the student and their family discuss what they want to accomplish and create a program that will best help them achieve their goals. These "roadmaps" are evaluated regularly and modified as necessary.

This supportive, individualized approach meets students where they are and helps them find and use their strengths to move forward.