



August 15, 2021

Dear Compass Community,

Compass was awarded \$242,001 in federal funds through the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) fund. Under this program, we are expected to explain the work that will be executed as a result of receiving this funding. This work will support our efforts to deliver high-quality instruction when it is needed most - at a time when it is critical that we meet the academic, social, emotional and mental health needs of all students, in particular those students and families with the most severe needs.

As part of this process, Compass seeks your input before submitting our final plan. Below is an outline of how we intend to use the funds.

- Compass will spend approximately 35% of the funding on a comprehensive recess program to support the social and emotional development of our students. This development has always been a focus of our school. However, this need is even greater when, during the pandemic, children's interaction with peers has been minimal if not eliminated entirely.
 - Students will engage in a variety of well-staffed, organized, and structured activities that develop a variety of skills including but not limited to: collaboration, teamwork, advocacy, conflict resolution, and empathy
- Compass will spend 10% on professional development for staff to support their skills in creating and executing authentic, engaging, and standards based learning experiences across all grades.
- Compass will spend 20% on summer learning programs from this summer to support the significant learning loss experienced due to limited onsite learning
- Compass will spend 3% on professional development and curriculum focusing on developing strategic thinking skills, communication skills and visual literacy in students.
- Compass will spend 5% on a supplemental online assessment and instruction program. i-Ready will be used to reinforce skills and concepts that are taught during the regular school day and will afford students the opportunity to independently practice and develop skills that they are taught at school.
- Compass intends to spend roughly 26% of the funds to allow us to pay competitive staff salaries in order to retain and hire a diverse staff.

Compass utilizes two full-time, lead teachers in every classroom. These teaching teams loop for two years with the same student groups. This teaching model has numerous benefits that include but are not limited to:

- Grouping students in a variety of ways
- Minimizing student to teacher ratio
- Increased student engagement and participation
- Stronger student connections with classroom community and teachers
- Stronger family connection with teachers and curricular content

We encourage you and your community to share your thoughts on how we plan on spending our allocated funds. Comments can be sent to todd@brooklyncompass.org. Please submit your comments no later than 4pm on Tuesday, August 31st.

Todd Sutler
Co-Leader