



COMPASS ACADEMY  
Where Learners & Leaders Grow

June 1, 2015

Jennifer Holladay  
Director of School Development and Support  
Academic & Innovation Office  
Denver Public Schools  
1860 Lincoln, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Ms. Holladay:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this letter of intent for placement of Compass Academy, Where Learners and Leaders Grow, in a district facility in Southwest Denver. Compass Academy will open this fall to sixth graders in Kepner Middle School and will serve grades 6-12 by 2021. The Denver Public Schools (DPS) Board of Education approved a 2-3 year placement at Kepner. DPS leadership committed to finding a permanent facility provided Compass Academy meets certain performance standards. DPS has been a critically important and supportive partner in ensuring our school will meet the needs of southwest Denver students.

Compass Academy will enable our students to realize their unique talents, while mastering core academic skills. In addition, students will develop social-emotional strengths as well as learner and leader competencies that are required for success in the 21st century. There are many factors that make us a unique school. In addition to our highly qualified teachers, our students will be supported by a team of diverse City Year – AmeriCorps members to create a personalized learning environment where all members of the school community passionately pursue deeper learning.

Our school's leadership team is incredibly experienced. Our Executive Director, Marcia Fulton, was the head of the Odyssey School for eight years. Our middle school director, Mark Harmon, has been an Assistant Principal at Kepner Middle School for the past four years. He has passionately served students in the SW community for thirteen years as both an elementary and high school teacher. Our teachers for 2015-16 were selected from over 100 applicants. All are experienced educators and former City Year corps members.

This letter serves as our notice that we will be submitting full applications by July 22, 2015 for placement consideration at Henry World School and Lincoln High School. We ask to be included in all future community meetings related to the placement decisions. We look forward to working with DPS and the Southwest Denver community to meet the needs of our students.

Sincerely,

Mary A. Seawell, Board Chair

# Letter of intent for facility placement applicants

## Compass Academy, Where Learners and Leaders Grow

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School Name	Compass Academy, Where Learners and Leaders Grow
Grade Configuration	6-12
Model or Focus	Development of Learner and Leader competencies; increased human capital; project based learning; emphasis on student support and data
Date of Board of Education approval	June 12, 2014
Primary Contact:	Marcia Fulton, Executive Director <a href="mailto:mfulton@compassacademy.org">mfulton@compassacademy.org</a>
Priority Need:	
Proposed Leader:	Marcia Fulton
Replication:	No
Contract with ESP/EMO	Yes, service provider contract with City Year School Design Division, LLC

Grade	First Charter Term				Renewal Charter Term		
	2015-15	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
6	120	112	112	112	112	112	112
7		112	112	112	112	112	112
8			112	112	112	112	112
9				112	112	112	112
10					112	112	112
11						112	112
12							112
<b>Total</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>336</b>	<b>448</b>	<b>560</b>	<b>672</b>	<b>784</b>

	FRL %	SPED %	ELL %
Demographics	93.74% <sup>i</sup>	14%	53.54% <sup>ii</sup>

<sup>i</sup> Based on weighted numbers of students from sending schools.

<sup>ii</sup> These are students who haven't exited yet; DPS estimates that 41% of these students will be re-designated by the Fall. If that is the case, the school will have an eventual estimated total ELL population of 31%