

Dear Parents,

I have been a member of Compass since its inception in 2016. I joined because I was excited to see Ancillae “open the door” to diversity discussions. I had not seen or felt that in prior years and I’ve been an Ancillae parent since 2011.

As a Black parent at AAA I’ve often felt like I was on an island because the environment is “clickish”. Many of the White parents knew each other well and communicated among themselves. If this was happening on the adult level, I presumed it likely carried over to the children and my presumption was correct to a degree. While my children were (and still are) socially adept in most situations, I was aware that there were micro aggressions and slights they dealt with daily and sometimes outright bullying and discrimination. I knew these things would happen because my husband and I are raising black children in America. A place where racism still exists and white privilege remains. Despite these sobering realities, providing a strong educational experience for our children is a must and we are committed to creating these opportunities. Similarly, I committed to Compass Leadership because a viable opportunity to create change for a more equitable and diverse environment appeared and I wanted to seize the moment. Compass is not just for Black people. Every parent at AAA is welcome and truthfully, I hope MANY more AAA parents share these feelings and will be motivated to join Compass and be the change you want to see!

Thank you,

Crystal