

TOP 10 THINGS HAPPENING AT THE FARM SCHOOL THIS YEAR

(That were not happening last year and that your student may not have told you about ...)

1. MATH - A NEW CULTURE

Pre-Algebra, Algebra, Geometry

- Students are required to attend **consistently scheduled math lessons** and receive math work time and support throughout the week.
- Students have **daily required math follow up work**.
- All students have the option to take **algebra 1** - even before 9th grade!
- Compass has implemented a **fully integrated secondary Montessori math curriculum**, aligned to state standards, graduation requirements, and the Montessori method.

2. LITERATURE GROUPS

Students have participated in two cycles of literature groups, ranging from middle school to college-level texts. Next year students will have 3 literature groups.

3. FOREIGN LANGUAGE

- Spanish
- German

9th years have the option to receive foreign language credit.

4. SELF-EXPRESSIONS

Students have had over 100 options for self-expression classes this year, including:

acrylic painting • photography • baking • capture the flag • team sports • human biology • physics of superheroes • drawing • badminton • climbing • theater • art of geometry • speech and debate • creative computing • stock market • soccer • activism • preservation and canning • baking with children's house • roller skating • yoga • study of harry potter • hiking • college prep • film studies • calligraphy • dungeons and dragons • jamming • coloring and mindfulness • advanced algebra • chess • creative writing • ethics • greek mythology • football • skiing and snowboarding • cosmology • and more!

* Aquaponics/Geodome is now offered as a self-expression

5. DATA SHOWS - FARM SCHOOL STUDENTS ARE LEARNING

	BELOW GRADE LEVEL		AT GRADE LEVEL		ABOVE GRADE LEVEL	
	<i>Last Year</i> 2015/2016	<i>This Year</i> 2016/2017	<i>Last Year</i> 2015/2016	<i>This Year</i> 2016/2017	<i>Last Year</i> 2015/2016	<i>This Year</i> 2016/2017
MATH	49.65%	36.43%	24.11%	25%	26.24%	38.56%
READING	26.57%	16.66%	16.78%	13.05%	56.64%	70.29%
LANGUAGE	30.28%	19.43%	24.65%	17.98%	45.07%	62.59%

6. STUDENTS ARE BEING HELD ACCOUNTABLE

Students receive feedback on their work, utilizing competency-aligned rubrics.

There are now written norms for behavior in all environments. Norms are maintained and reinforced at all times.

Students are expected to attend consistent lessons and complete follow-up in math, language, science, and Occupation work.

7. THE ENVIRONMENT IS PREPARED AND BEAUTIFUL

- The entire Farm School has been freshly painted and reorganized.
- The Farm School now has a Makerspace, which supports 3D printing, art, technology lessons, and more for students and their academic and creative work.
- Lockers will be installed this summer!
- The east side of the FS Commons has been transformed into a collegiate library space to support individual and small group academic work spaces.

8. COMMUNICATIONS

All occupations are regularly maintaining websites with newspapers that are written and designed by Farm School students.

Check the school website under "Programs" --> Farm School!

9. THE FARM SCHOOL AND HIGH SCHOOL ARE COLLABORATING AS ONE COHESIVE SECONDARY PROGRAM

10. BUILDING COMMUNITY

The Farm School is fostering community-building through weekly meetings of the entire Farm School student body, with meetings being planned for and run by Farm School students.

- **Report cards and portfolios** are now in alignment with High School practice.
- There are cross-level meetings between Farm School and High School staff to ensure **consistency and continuity**.
- Farm School students are now using **planners and portfolios** that are framed around the **exit outcomes** of Compass Montessori, in preparation for High School.
- In their own words, 9th years "**Feel prepared for High School**" - and are thinking ahead to university!