



KERN COUNTY INNOVATIVE & IMPACTFUL SCHOOLS
Academics | Engagement | College & Career Readiness

Kern County Innovative & Impactful Schools (I²S) is a county wide program implemented by Kern County Superintendent of Schools to acknowledge schools who are high-performing and improving student outcomes based on these three pillars of success.

McKittrick School

Award based on 2019 CAASPP ELA and Math

Based upon 3-year average

ELA: 15.3 points above Distance from Standard

Math: 26.9 points above Distance from Standard

McKittrick Union School District

Kern County

Principal/Superintendent: Barry Koerner

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Date: Oct. 5, 2020

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School Profile

McKittrick School District is a small K-8 single school district with an enrollment of 74 students. This community school is located near Taft, California and has been in operation since the early 1900's. The student teacher ratio is 8:1. McKittrick School has made a commitment to the community to have small class sizes. The kindergarten class has eight students. The other grades are combination classes with a maximum of 16 students for the two grade levels within each classroom. McKittrick is a 'district of choice' and maintains a waiting list of 100+ students. The principal/superintendent stated that McKittrick School is highly regarded among the graduates of Taft High including top honors of Salutatorians and Valedictorians. The well-funded school district invests in people to make a difference for the students.

School Demographics

The ethnicity of the student population is as follows: 77% White and 19% Hispanic/Latino. The additional student group from this population include: 36.5% Socioeconomically Disadvantaged Students.

Self-Identified Contributing Factors

- The school wide focus is individual learning plans tailored for the needs of each student:
 - Student cap of eight per grade level.
 - Two grade levels per class with a paraprofessional.
 - Kindergarten is reserved as a single grade class where the other grades are all combinations of two grade levels.
 - The kindergarten year is held as extremely valuable and students receive a full day of instruction with a limit of only eight students in the classroom.
 - “If we can get them in K able to succeed, because of the strong K influence, they will succeed in the other grades,” says Barry Koerner, Superintendent/Principal.
 - A reduction of special education referrals and tier 2 interventions are attributed to the strong first year of school.

- A “corrections” system/mode is utilized in mathematics – students take the corrections home beginning in K-8. All parents know that the student must complete the corrections until they get it right.

- Cycle of Inquiry begins with a deep data dive by the principal/superintendent. The information is shared at a staff meeting. The teacher then develops a plan of instruction for each student, that includes frequent assessments, and reteaching as needed.

- The assessment calendar includes annual SBAC and [AIMS web](#) assessments. Summative and formative assessments are developed within each grade level.

- Strong articulation with Taft High School includes a shared professional development day for staff.

- Staff meetings occur every other week.

- There is a long-standing tradition within the school district of retaining staff.

- Extensive parental involvement, mainly through the parent club, includes: volunteering in classrooms, hosting fundraising events, lunchtime BBQs, and offering stakeholder meetings following events while parents are on campus.

- Staff are recognized throughout the year by the principal/superintendent through public notices during a board meeting, weekly visits to staff members, and a verbal pat on the back.
- The principal removes barriers for teachers by providing what they need so they can teach.