



**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.

## Midway Elementary School

**Award based on 2019 CAASPP ELA and Math**

**Based upon 3-year average**

**ELA: 8.7 points above Distance from Standard**

**Math: -6.2 points below Distance from Standard**

Midway School District

Kern County

Name of Principal/Superintendent: Al Quezada

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*"I stress to my teachers that they need to do an amazing job in the class and Mr. Q will take care of the rest. "*

### School Profile

Midway Elementary School is a small rural single school district in southwest Kern County. The school district reports a total enrollment of 88 students in grades K-8<sup>th</sup>. The district office is on the same campus as the school and the principal/superintendent takes care of district and school site matters.

### School Demographics

The ethnicity of the student population includes: 77% White, 17% Hispanic or Latino, and 5% Other. The additional student groups from this population include: 58% Socioeconomically Disadvantaged and 12% qualifying for special education services.

## Self-Identified Contributing Factors

- With such a small student population, the ability to provide individual accommodations are a key contributing factor to the students' success.
- Midway Elementary provides a 15:1 student teacher ratio and adds paraprofessionals in the classroom which lends itself to differentiation of instruction:
  - Diagnostics are completed continuously.
  - With small class sizes, staff can meet the needs of all students.
  - Reteaching and extended learning opportunities are the main strategies and are immediately implemented.
  - High expectations are shared with students as the staff supports each child's academic potential.
  - Students are held accountable and are encouraged to participate. Teachers are aware of the students' ability due to the student to teacher ratio.
  - The classroom teachers have the autonomy to slow down the curriculum from a five day lesson and extend to an eight day lesson as needed for student learning.
  - Combination classes of multiple grades can be successful when the teacher can tailor the lesson to best meet the needs of each student.
- Curriculum is implemented with fidelity:
  - Journeys is used for ELA and includes:
    - Cold reads
    - Running records
    - Mid-chapter and performance assessments
  - [GoMath](#) is used for mathematics instruction.
- Intervention is embedded within each class:
  - Reteaching is used within the classroom:
    - Curriculum map moved from five day lessons to an eight day instructional lesson for early first instruction.
    - CompuCat is used as a differentiation tool for math.
    - One-on-one time to practice sight words with a paraprofessional are used for ELA and math.
    - Early subject matter exposure is embedded due to combo classes. Students learn from each other with combo classes i.e. First grade instruction is heard and learned by kindergarten students.
  - Repetitive instruction- i.e. first grade students hear kindergarten instruction, which layers their learning from possible lost units of learning and reminders of what was learned.
- Writing strategies include:
  - [Mentor Sentences](#)
  - [Writing City](#)
  - [Bubble Maps](#)

- Communication/Collaboration:
  - Monday mornings are set aside to go over the week, check in, and time to collaborate regarding students and sharing strategies.
  - PLCs are held across grade levels on the first Wednesday of every month.
  
- Social Emotional Learning (SEL) is included through the following:
  - Reminding students of “The TIGER” way students come to class ready to learn.
  - Accountable recognition is given(i.e. “Caught Being Good” tickets).
  - The teachers go through expectations at the beginning of the year and explain the reward system.
  
- The community surrounding Midway Elementary School is very active in the success of the students:
  - [Parent Volunteers](#)