



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.

Nueva Continuation High School

**English Learners
Socioeconomically Disadvantaged
Most Improved**

- ELA
- Math

Based upon 3-year growth from 2016-2019 CAASPP

ELA: 62.1 point increase

Math: 68.4 point increase

Kern High School District

Kern County

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NUEVA HIGH SCHOOL

School Profile

Nueva Continuation High School is located in the rural town of Lamont, California, which is southeast of Bakersfield. Nueva Continuation High School serves 120 students in the 11th-12th grade. The school was recognized in 2018 as a “Silver Recognition” Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports (PBIS) school. The school began operating during the 1970/1971 school year. Nueva is one of five continuation sites in the Kern High School District. Students who have reached the age of 16, or are juniors or seniors are enrolled at Nueva. Most of Nueva’s students have generally struggled at a traditional high school’s setting for a number of reasons: poor attendance, discipline issues, life circumstances, and more. Beginning in the fall of 2013 until spring 2018, Nueva offered an “opportunity program” for freshman and sophomores experiencing discipline issues at their home school.

School Demographics

The ethnicity of the student population of Nueva Continuation High School is as follows: 97% Hispanic and 3% Other. The additional student groups from this population include: 8.1% Students with Disabilities, 32% English Learners, and 98.3% Socioeconomically Disadvantaged.

Self-Identified Contributing Factors

- Students at Nueva Continuation High School are proud to have a second chance.
- Staff make the biggest difference:
 - Many of the students who attend Nueva have learning disabilities which are identified because of the small 15:1 student to teacher ratio, which is not afforded in a traditional education setting.
 - Staff knows every student's name and refers to them by their name.
 - The secretary grew up in the community and is well respected by parents and connects with the students.
 - The secretary and the security officer also serve as mentors.
 - The counselor works closely with parents so there is continuity between the home and school.
 - Staff focuses on a growth mindset. Many students feel they can't be successful in school which becomes the biggest barrier to their success.
- Partnerships with outside organizations give strong support to the students' success:
 - Clinica Sierra Vista is nearby and gives Tier 3 support to qualified students.
 - Bakersfield College offers dual enrollment with Nueva which includes career development.
- Curriculum is tailored to meet the needs of each student:
 - On Campus Intervention (OCI) targets the identified problem area(s). The teacher reaches out to the parent so they are involved in helping the student graduate.
 - Bridge Class is taken by students who are preparing to exit the program. The student and teacher work together to plan the steps to successfully transition to general education.
 - Graduation plans are set and students have the two options: going through graduation mid year or at the end of the year.
 - 11th grade students participate in Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC) testing and are coached on testing protocols.
 - [Close Reading](#) is used in English Language Development (ELD) classes which is different for a high school than an elementary school.
 - Staff attend professional learning for English learner strategies.
 - The algebra lab supplements the algebra class. Students are able to collaborate on solving problems. Mathematical Mindset is a part of the culture of an algebra lab.

- Career Tech Education helps motivate students to plan for possible careers:
 - [Quest for Success](#) (Q4S) is a job training program which is offered after school hours 6 hours per week.
 - [Community service](#) is an opportunity at the Lamont School District Family Resource Center, Lamont Boys and Girls Club, and the Veterans' Center.
 - Post Secondary planning is provided through the business teacher and is complemented with virtual and physical field trips to different college campuses and career oriented programs.

- Positive school climate is at the forefront and involves staff training.

- A school wide system of behavior expectations include:
 - Building relationships with students through one on one and class meetings.
 - Teach and practice behavioral expectations.
 - Reinforcing positive behavior.
 - Problem solve with students.
 - Elicit parent/guardian/family support.
 - Use a Social Emotional Learning curriculum.
 - Manage unwanted behaviors through a behavior matrix.

- Lessons are taught on expected behaviors while attending Nueva:
 - Introduction with what it means to be a Knight - [Respectful, Unstoppable , Leaders, Empowered \(RULE\)](#).
 - The next lesson is on [respect](#).
 - The final lesson is the [“Respect- Ghosting Lesson”](#).