

AT A GLANCE



Kern County
Superintendent of Schools
Office of Mary C. Barlow ...advocates for children



Mary C. Barlow, Kern County's Superintendent of Schools.

THE ROLE OF KCSOS

California's public education system consists of three levels — state, district and county. Regulations, funding and fundamental policy are established at the state level, while the day-to-day education of students is the responsibility of individual school districts.

County offices of education are the third level and provide an important support system for local schools and districts. Kern County Superintendent of Schools (KCSOS), Kern County's Office of Education, does not oversee or govern any one Kern County district, but rather serves and supports them all through various programs, fiscal accountability, approval of district Local Control Accountability Plans (LCAPs), formulation of new curricula, assistance with staff development and training programs and collaboration with community partners for the benefit of local young people.

KCSOS also provides direct instruction to students who have been expelled from their home district, students who are incarcerated or are on probation, students with special needs and early learners through a network of preschools.



Our Mission ...

As advocates for children, we provide leadership, education and support for students, school districts and the community through programs, services and fiscal accountability.

City Centre — KCSOS's headquarters in downtown Bakersfield.

OUR STRATEGIC GOALS:

- Improve student growth, achievement and accountability
- Maximize service to clients and improve access to resources
- Maintain a cohesive, productive and stable workforce
- Maintain fiscal stability, integrity and accountability
- Provide proactive leadership as a community partner

Our Core Values:

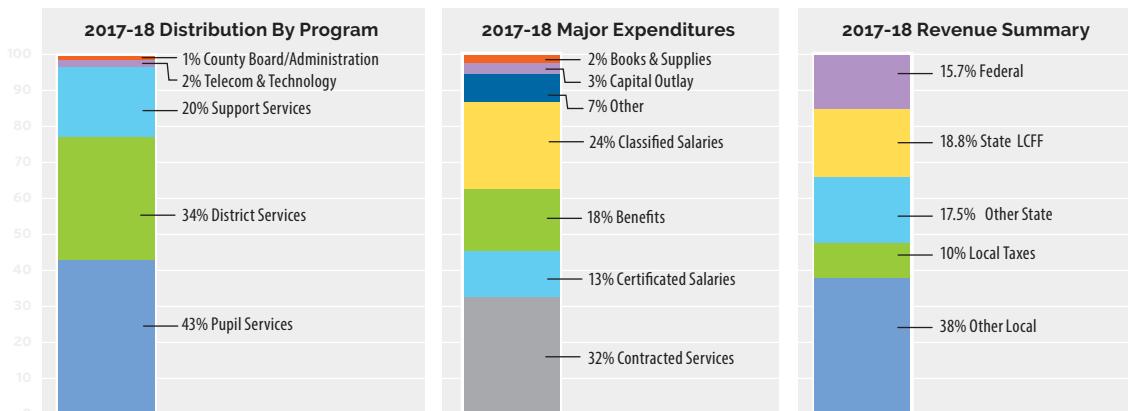
- Children first
- Dedicated to excellent service
- Our employees are our most valuable asset
- Fiscal integrity is vital
- Collaboration is key



Students from **Valley Oaks Charter School** engaged in a STEM lesson as part of their enrichment curriculum.

EDUCATION DOLLARS AT WORK

KSCOS's 2017-18 general fund budget was \$239,062,425. 56.5% of these monies were restricted, meaning they legally must be used for a specific purpose. The other 43.5% were unrestricted funds and used for other educational services.



* Source: 2017-2018 Unaudited Actuals Accounting Records.



Academic Decathlon is one of the many student events KCSOS hosts annually.

KERN COUNTY SCHOOLS - FAST FACTS (2017-18)

Public School Enrollment (K-12) — 189,949

Number of School Districts — 47

Largest District — Kern High (39,520 students)

Number of Public School Sites — 278

- Elementary — 158
- Middle Schools / Junior Highs — 46
- High Schools — 35
- Continuation Schools — 12
- Court & Community Schools — 14
- Special Education — 2
- Charter Schools — 11

Enrollment by Ethnicity

- African American — 5.5%
- American Indian — 0.6%
- Asian/Pacific Islander — 2.5%
- Filipino — 1.4%
- Hispanic — 64.9%
- White — 22.6%
- Multiple/No Response — 2.5%

English Language Learners — 19.5%

Qualify for Free or Reduced Meals — 71%

More data can be found at <http://www.ed-data.org/> and data1.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/



KCSOS oversees Kern's **AVID** program, a college-readiness initiative.

INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT & COLLABORATION

KCSOS's **Curriculum, Instruction & Accountability** team provides support for quality academic programs for California State Standards to Kern County's 47 school districts, in addition to providing a high-level of support in the development and implementation of district Local Control Accountability Plans (LCAPs).

KCSOS also supports school districts with specialized teacher training. For instance, the **Teacher Induction Program** provides opportunities for preliminary credentialed teachers to expand and deepen their teaching knowledge and skills, ultimately to a recommendation for a professional credential.

Migrant Education Region V provides leadership, staff development and other services to districts and families to ensure that migrant students succeed. Migrant instructional services are delivered to eligible migrant students through a variety of programs like after school instruction, Saturday schools, home tutorial programs and summer school.

Districts and community agencies partner together on a variety of prevention and school safety programs through **School Community Partnerships**. These partnerships are the building blocks for a safe, healthy, positive and educationally sound future for all of our children and families.



Mary Barlow, Superintendent of Schools, reads to children at KCSOS's **Richardson Child Development Center**.

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

KCSOS operates a state subsidized **Early Childhood Education Program** which provides high quality half-day and full-day preschool services at 12 child care centers for more than 1,000 children daily from income eligible families. Additionally, **Community Connection for Child Care (CCCC)** is a child development and family services agency dedicated to providing options, education, and support to children, families, child development professionals and the community. CCCC offers early care and education training opportunities, child care referrals for licensed child care, and oversees state and federal subsidized child care programs. The **Early Childhood Council of Kern** offers training for child care providers and serves as an open forum for dialog regarding issues related to the early childhood field.

Kern County Network for Children (KCNC) solves local issues through its system of neighborhood collaboratives, serves as the planning, administrative and oversight body for Kern's child abuse prevention funds, administers **Foster Youth Services** to meet the educational needs of foster youth and improves chances for children and families at risk of child abuse or neglect with the **Differential Response Program**.





KCSOS serves nearly 1,000 students with special needs throughout Kern County.

EDUCATING OUR OWN

KCSOS provides direct instruction and support to more than 3,500 of its own students. The office's Alternative Education program operates **Court and Community Schools**, which educate some 1,500 students who are incarcerated, in juvenile court programs, expelled, on probation or at serious risk of dropping out of school.

Additionally, more than 1,000 students attend **Valley Oaks Charter School (VOCS)**, an alternative to traditional public school education for families who home school their children.

KCSOS's **Special Education** program serves nearly 1,000 students with special needs on about 30 Kern County campuses through the **Kern County Consortium Special Education Local Program Area (SELPA)** and, in conjunction with Kern Regional Center, operates an **Early Start Program** for infants/toddlers with special needs. The Kern County Consortium SELPA's countywide **Search and Serve** program identifies and refers students with special needs to district and county office programs located throughout the county.





MONEY MATTERS

KCSOS's **Administration & Finance Division** is the accounting link to Kern County's 47 school districts, ensuring that each is in compliance with state budgetary and reporting requirements, and that there are sufficient funds deposited for payroll and to meet commercial obligations. It also provides computerized access to centralized financial and student records for districts and is the bill paying arm for KCSOS.

Fiscal Crisis and Management Assistance Team (FCMAT) was established by the state to help California's educational agencies fulfill their financial and management responsibilities. FCMAT's primary mission is to help California's local educational agencies identify, prevent and resolve financial challenges. FCMAT's services are used not just to help avert fiscal crises, but to promote sound financial practices and effective and efficient operations.





Students having fun while learning at **Camp KEEP** on California's central coast.

REAL-WORLD LEARNING

KCSOS offers an abundance of rich and rewarding learning experiences both inside and outside the classroom. The office hosts more than a dozen **academic competitions and events** every year for students in grades K-12 that enhance creativity, build self-esteem, develop character and improve knowledge of a given subject.

Meanwhile, the **California Living Museum (CALM)** annually attracts more than 100,000+ visitors to its native zoo and gardens, many of whom visit during educational field trips with their school.

The **Kern Environmental Education Program (KEEP)** offers a week-long residential environmental science education program for 5th and 6th graders, exploring the ecosystems of California's central coast.

Science 4 Kern is a STEM education lending library program geared toward Kern County 4th & 5th graders. Engaging STEM units consisting of equipment, lab materials, curriculum, consumables, and educational support are available at no cost to Kern County schools thanks to funding from Chevron.





"**Do the Math**" is KCSOS's live, call-in math tutoring television program.

SCHOOL DISTRICT SUPPORT SERVICES

In addition to providing essential services internally for KCSOS, various departments also serve important roles in aiding Kern County schools and districts.

For example, the **CTE & College Readiness Department** exists to help local school districts with the implementation of measurable career and college readiness programs that provide students with clear pathways toward career and/or college success.

The **Governmental Affairs** office represents all county school districts in Sacramento on legislative matters involving schools, while **Human Resources** strives to ensure a productive and stable workforce and provides guidance and best practices to districts.

KCSOS's **Communications** team produces live and recorded educational programming for television and the classroom and helps districts with website development, graphic design, printing of instructional materials, media relations assistance and crisis communications solutions.

Technology Support Services is a full-service IT department providing network infrastructure, user support, web-based development, ISP, internet connection, and web-related technologies.



DID YOU KNOW???

- KCSOS's **Central Kitchen** prepares approximately 700,000 breakfasts, lunches and snacks, all meeting USDA nutrition guidelines, for children in KCSOS operated programs every year.
- KCSOS operates **Schools Legal Service**, an affordable, non-profit legal/negotiation consortium serving schools throughout the state and **Self-Insured Schools of California (SISC)**, which offers low cost premiums to its collaboration of statewide school districts for insurance covering workers' compensation, property, liability, health and welfare benefits.
- More than half of KCSOS's **Transportation** fleet of school buses use environmentally-efficient and cost-effective Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) to transport students. The office also operates a CNG fueling station that serves public and private entities.
- **The Kern High School District** is California's largest high school district, serving more than 39,000 students. **Bakersfield City School District** is California's largest elementary school district, serving more than 30,000 students. Blake School District (Woody, CA) is among California's smallest school districts, serving 13 students.



KERN COUNTY
SUPERINTENDENT
OF SCHOOLS

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