

**Kern County Superintendent of Schools Office  
2019-20 Local Accountability Plan Stakeholder Questions & Answers**

- 1. Court and Community School classrooms are staffed with a 1:1 teacher to paraprofessional ratio. Could LCFF funds be used to fund a paraprofessional in the English Language Development (ELD) classroom?**

Kern County Superintendent of Schools (KCSOS) recognizes that staff in the Court and Community Schools work with a vulnerable and need-intensive population. Therefore, the program has been committed to providing the necessary resources to best meet the needs of the students. While classroom target caseloads are 23 students, and therefore require support staff, ELD classrooms are typically smaller in size as they are structured as a pullout program designed to meet the specific needs of EL students. Requests for additional resources should be brought to the attention of the immediate supervisor and will be considered based on student needs and resources.

- 2. Are there any services available that help parents communicate with their children?**

Yes. Through the School Social Worker and other School Community Partnership staff, KCSOS offers parenting classes such as Parent Project and Parenting Partners at various times throughout the year. Parents who are interested in participating in these classes should contact the school principal to participate in upcoming trainings. Parents will be notified via School Messenger and/or promotional flyers as the trainings are scheduled.

- 3. Will LCFF Funds be used to provide additional Career Technical Education (CTE) programs for our students?**

Based on stakeholder feedback, CTE programs continue to be a priority and KCSOS is committed to providing these types of services to the students. CTE programs are currently funded through state and federal grants such as Career Technology Education Incentive Grant (CTEIG) and Employee Training Resources (ETR), as well as from LCFF funds. The program continues to seek grant opportunities and industry partnerships to strengthen and expand CTE offerings.

**4. Will staff be trained in Trauma Informed Care?**

Yes. It is understood that many of the students in the Alternative Education program have experienced adverse childhood experiences and as a result, may be triggered by the words or actions of their peers and staff. KCSOS has consistently provided staff development in the area of social and emotional development, including Trauma Informed Care, and plans to continue this emphasis through ongoing professional development opportunities.

**5. Will the Alternative Education program be transitioning to an all online curriculum?**

While the program acknowledges the value of online learning as a means of preparing students for college and the workforce, we do not plan to provide instruction exclusively through online resources. Blended learning where curriculum is taught through direct instruction and supplemented by online resources has proven to be the most beneficial for students. Research indicates that teachers are the most powerful factor in the success of students and KCSOS intends to keep teacher/student interaction as the focal point of instruction.

**6. Will LCFF funds be used to provide North Kern Community School with a Social Worker or Psychologist?**

Through collaborative efforts with KCSOS School Community Partnerships, a School Social Worker was assigned to North Kern Community School in 2018/2019. In order to maintain this level of support, the program is currently researching the use of Title IV funds as well as other funds to identify resources that will allow for these services to continue. The Alternative Education program currently does employ a School Social Worker and School Psychologist that serve all Alternative Education school sites. This additional layer of support specifically for North Kern Community School would be in addition to the supports currently shared by all other school sites.