Kern County Superintendent of Schools Office
2018-19 Local Accountability Plan Stakeholder Questions & Answers

1. **What is the status of expanding the Career Technical Education (CTE) programs to all Court and Community School sites?**

   The Alternative Education program has identified increasing the participation rates in the various CTE pathways as a priority in the 2018-2021 Strategic Plan. This will be accomplished by adding CTE pathways (Media Arts and Early Education), utilizing technology such as Google Hangouts to make courses accessible to students in outlying areas, and by continuing to seek grant funding opportunities to increase resources.

2. **Can the program make Social Emotional curriculum available to all students?**

   BASE (Behavioral Alternatives to Suspension and Expulsion) Education, an online Social Emotional Learning software is available to all students. The software can be used as a preventative strategy or as a way of intervening once staff are made aware of a student's needs. BASE Ed offers an online curriculum of approximately 55 modules that provides online counseling for students.

3. **Will further professional development be made available on how to deal with students' social-emotional issues?**

   Current resources available to students who need social/emotional support include:

   - Mental Health Clinicians
   - AmeriCorps Mentors
   - Transition Counselors
   - MSW Interns
   - School Social Worker
   - Others

   A universal referral is currently available for staff to submit if/when they have a student who has these kinds of needs. The referral goes to the School Social Worker for evaluation and a plan is implemented to best meet the needs of the student.

4. **Can funds be utilized to purchase tablets/laptops for English Learner (EL) students to take home?**

   The program is currently working on transitioning from the current student tablets to Chromebooks and is expecting to start the 2018 school year with all students having access to a Chromebook in order to access Google Classroom. Students will have full access to the Chromebooks during school hours but there is not currently a plan to allow students to take the Chromebooks home. Research will be done to evaluate the effectiveness of such a policy and the associated costs.

5. **Are bus passes provided to students if transportation is a barrier?**

   If a student/family has extenuating circumstances that make getting to school a barrier, the program will evaluate current resources to determine if support can be provided. Grants have been written and federal funds have been used to purchase bus passes for students who have the greatest need. This continues to be a needed and effective strategy to eliminate barriers for students.