West Kern Consortium for Full-Service Community Schools

The Lost Hills Union Elementary School District (LHUESD), in collaboration with Semitropic Elementary Schools District (SESD) and Maple Elementary School District (MESD), is proposing four, Title 1, full-service community schools through the West Kern Consortium (WKC) in Kern County, CA. The WKC will impact 1,085 pre K-8th grade students and approximately 800 households. Over the next five years, with $2.5M in federal funding (and $2.1M matched state dollars), all four schools will continue to improve and establish five pipelines: (1) preschool; (2) expanded learning; (3) students transitions with focus on math instruction; (4) family and community engagement; and (5) social and health services. Each of the pipelines has a number of activities including the following: establishing a new preschool class, leveraging a math coach, school social worker, and school mentors, improving math instruction through evidenced-based practices, providing evidenced-based social and mental health services, counseling, and referrals, and providing afterschool and summer school programs. Partnerships with Harvard University’s By All Means initiative, a local improvement facilitator, and a high-quality external evaluator will serve to improve pipeline services.

WCK is an unincorporated, rural, farm and oil community with bleak education and health outcomes. 83% of students qualify for free-reduced price meals, 60% are English Learners, and nearly 90% are Latino. Suspensions and chronic absence rates are high and math and English Language Arts proficiency rates are some of the lowest in the county.

In collaboration with multiple County of Kern departments, Kern County Superintendent of Schools, the Boys and Girls Club of Kern County, and Omni Family Health, WCK will be work on some of the following key outcomes: 8% annual increases in mathematics proficiency AND kindergarten, middle school, and high school readiness; 1-3% annually decreases in suspensions and chronic absenteeism; and 5% annual school attendance increases.