

Karnes City Independent School District
PR#U215J190010
Abstract

The Karnes City Independent School District (KCISD) is proposing to create and sustain three full-service community schools in Karnes City, Texas via its *Karnes City – Full-Service Community School* (KC-FSCS) initiative. The initiative will transform three Title 1 schools into full-service community schools. The three schools are (1) Roger E. Sides Elementary School (RES), serving 2nd to 5th graders, (2) Karnes City Junior High School (KCJH), serving 6th to 8th graders, and (3) Karnes City High School (KCHS), serving 9th to 12th grade students.

The KC-FSCS Plan includes creating these full-service community schools in a rural, low-income community, as defined by the Rural and Low-Income (RLIS) program. The KC-FSCS Plan includes active participation by a consortium of 13 partners comprised of a broad representation of stakeholders. Consortia are not new to KCISD and currently, KCISD has several significant and highly effective consortia such as the *Partnership for Afterschool Centers of Excellence* (PACE) and the STAR program. Each of these consortia include multiple local area nonprofit, public and private agencies. All the programs and strategies in the comprehensive KC-FSCS Plan are supported by promising evidence of effectiveness.

The KC-FSCS Plan is to transform the RES, KCJH, and the KCHS into full-service community schools, over the course of five years, by partnering with local area agencies to fully implement and sustain the effective components. In Year One, the program will add two additional pipeline services at the three campuses. These new pipeline services will include juvenile crime prevention and rehabilitation programs and the pipeline of social, health, nutrition, and mental health services and supports. In this same year, the program will strengthen the existing pipeline services related to family and community engagement.

In Year Two, the KC-FSCS Plan includes adding two more pipeline services: (1) Activities that support postsecondary and workforce readiness, and (2) Community-based support for students who have attended the schools in the area, as well as, strengthening the pipeline services related to high-quality school and out-of-school-time. In Year Three, the program will continue all the services and programs started since Year One and will further strengthen the existing pipeline of community-based support for students who have attended the schools in the area. Throughout each year of the program, the KC-FSCS Plan calls for a rigorous and formal evaluation so that the program partners and stakeholders are informed about what is working and what challenges the program is facing. Helping to implement this plan will be the following nonprofit organizations and public agencies: (1) Connections, (2) Camino Real Community Services, (3) Texas AgriLife, (4) Karnes County Juvenile Probation Department, (5) Karnes City Public Library, (6) Otto Kaiser Memorial Hospital, (7) Karnes Community Health Center, (8) Karnes County Nurse, (9) Education Service Center -Region 3, (10) First Baptist Church Karnes City, (11) Girl Scouts of Southwest Texas, (12) Boy Scouts of America, and (13) PACE. When fully implemented, the KC-FSCS plan will serve over 1,000 youth and adults in each year of the program and will achieve five goals and 15 objectives.

The five goals are (1) Create and sustain integrated student supports to reduce disciplinary referrals and community violence; (2) Create and sustain integrated student supports to improve school connectedness; (3) Create and sustain integrated supports for workforce and college readiness; (4) Create and sustain integrated family and community engagement supports; and (5) Sustain the program after initial funding

ends. Key project outcomes will include reduced school disciplinary referrals, reduction in suicidal ideation, improved connectedness to school, reduced language isolation, increase family functioning and parental confidence, and improved career and college readiness.