



COMMUNITY  
SCHOOLS

Whole-Child Success  
Across the Central Valley

June 2026



Wings of Knowledge  
STEM Student Program - Coalinga Huron Unified

## Two Towns, One Community: CHUSD's Community Schools in Action



**Coalinga-Huron Unified School District's** Community Schools journey reflects a strong commitment to building a sustainable system of support centered on students, families, and community. Serving a rural region where access to healthcare, mental health services, transportation, and community resources can be limited, CHUSD has embraced the Community Schools Framework as a strategy to align partnerships, expand opportunities, and strengthen supports across the district.

This work was recently highlighted during a Community Schools Deep Dive and Learning Exchange hosted in partnership with the CV R-TAC, the S-TAC, and UCLA. The event welcomed more than 120 educators, partners, and community leaders from across California to experience how CHUSD is aligning Community Schools, LCAP priorities, Improvement Science, and Networked Improvement Communities into one coherent system focused on student success.



Through three learning rotations, visitors saw the Four Pillars of Community Schools in action, including integrated student supports, family and community engagement, collaborative leadership, and expanded learning opportunities. Students played a central role throughout the day by leading presentations, participating in student panels, and sharing their experiences through the debut of the "Two Towns, One Community" Digital Storytelling project.

Participants also visited wellness centers, family engagement programs, expanded learning opportunities, and community-based learning experiences connected to career pathways and real-world application. At Wings of Knowledge, visitors built circuit boards alongside students, highlighting CHUSD's commitment to hands-on, community-connected learning.



In a rural district where resources are often limited, CHUSD continues to demonstrate how Community Schools can create stronger systems of care, belonging, and opportunity by leveraging partnerships, elevating student voice, and aligning supports around the needs of the whole child. To learn more about Coalinga-Huron Unified School District's Community Schools work, visit [www.chusd.org](http://www.chusd.org).

# LEARNING IN ACTION: WONDERFUL COLLEGE PREP ACADEMY

**Wonderful College Prep Academy (WCPA)** recently hosted educators, community school leaders, and partners from across California at its Delano, California campus for a **Community Schools Deep Dive and Learning Exchange** focused on strengthening whole child outcomes through authentic family and community engagement. Led in partnership with UCLA, the STAC and the CV RTAC the event created space for collaborative learning, reflection, and continuous improvement for all education partners.

Special recognition goes to the Wonderful College Prep Academy team for the intentionality, transparency, and vulnerability they demonstrated throughout the Learning Exchange. Staff openly shared both successes and ongoing challenges connected to their problem of practice: empowering families to effectively navigate school systems and advocate for their children's academic success. Their willingness to model authentic improvement work provided participants with a meaningful example of what continuous learning and collaborative leadership can look like in practice.



Throughout the day, participants explored WCPA's High-Quality Instructional Framework (HQIF), integrated student supports, and family engagement strategies designed to strengthen academic achievement and student well-being. Attendees also participated in campus tours featuring wellness centers, student services, and enrichment programs that demonstrate how community schools can intentionally connect academics, health, and family partnership efforts. Guests were also able to experience their nutrition services that offer meals made from scratch, further reflecting Wonderful College Prep Academy's commitment to student wellness and whole child support.

The Learning Exchange concluded with a collaborative consultancy session where participants reflected on strategies to deepen family empowerment and measure meaningful engagement beyond event attendance. Through thoughtful dialogue and shared problem-solving, attendees engaged in authentic conversations centered on strengthening systems of support for students and families. The session served as a powerful reminder that community schools work is rooted in relationships, continuous learning, and a shared commitment to improving outcomes for every child. Overall, the Deep Dive and Learning Exchange was an inspiring and meaningful learning experience that showcased the intentional work happening at Wonderful College Prep Academy.

To learn more about Wonderful College Prep Academy and its commitment to whole child success, family partnership, and community schools implementation, visit their website and explore the impactful work happening across their campuses.

[www.wonderfulcollegeprepacademy.org](http://www.wonderfulcollegeprepacademy.org)



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