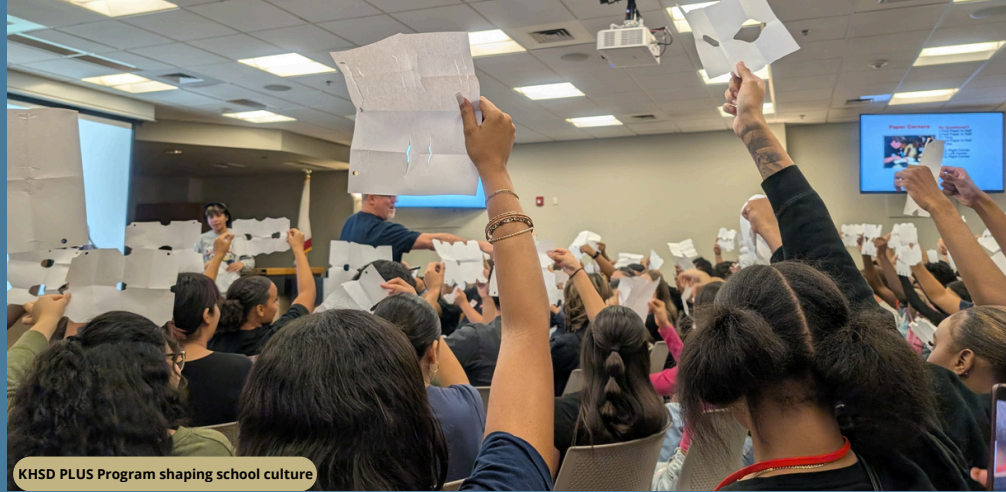




COMMUNITY
SCHOOLS

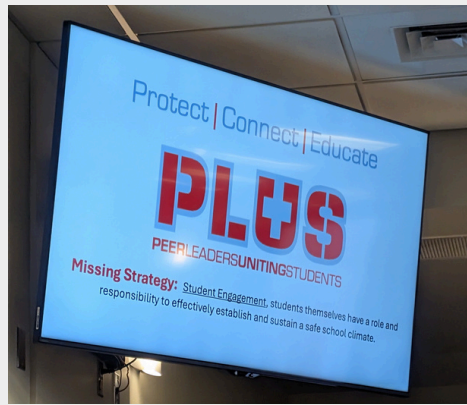
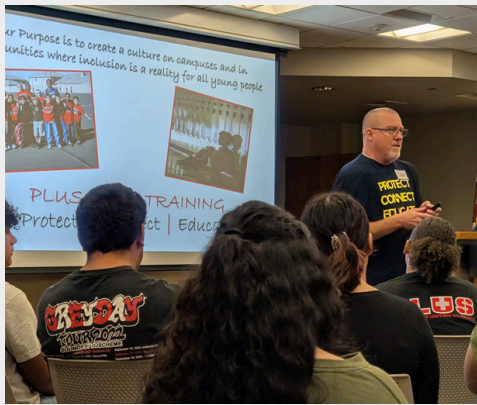
Supporting Whole-Child Success
Across the Central Valley

October 2025



Kern High School District Student PLUS Program

The **PLUS Program (Peer Leaders Uniting Students)** empowers youth to lead school culture change through data, engagement, and action planning. **Kern High School District** recently hosted a full-day training for community school student teams, focusing on their role in building positive campus climates. Students worked together to design engagement strategies, plan data collection efforts, and begin drafting action plans tailored to their school communities. The training reflects Kern High's commitment to elevating student voice and leadership as part of its community school efforts.



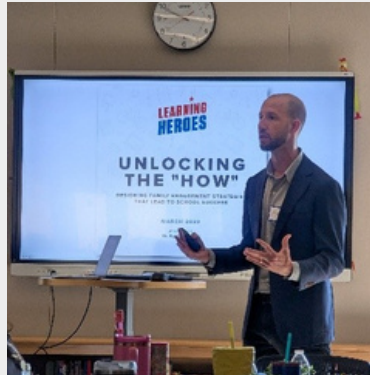
Kern County Superintendent of Schools - Community Schools Refresher

On August 28, 2025, Community School Teams from across the Central Valley gathered for a professional learning session focused on inclusive planning strategies and aligning the school year's efforts with the California Community Schools Framework. This session was designed as a follow-up for grantees who had previously completed a Community Schools Bootcamp, offering a chance to revisit foundational practices while also diving deeper into sustainable implementation. More than sixty participants attended, representing Merced, Tulare, and Kern counties. The day included guided reflection on past experiences, collaborative discussions, and strategy-sharing across county lines. Participants walked away with renewed clarity and practical tools to build, manage, and sustain effective community schools—centered on equity, partnership, and student success.



BAKERSFIELD CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

On September 17, 2025, **Bakersfield City School District** (BCSD) partnered with **Learning Heroes** to host a dynamic family engagement training for their community school teams. The session, facilitated by national family engagement expert Eyal Bergman and BCSD's own Rochelle Machado, brought together parents, teachers, support staff, and administrators in a shared effort to strengthen connections between schools and families. The training emphasized the critical role of school-home partnerships in today's educational landscape. In the wake of the pandemic, districts across the country continue to grapple with academic declines and rising rates of chronic absenteeism. Sessions like this one help shift the focus from blame to collaboration, empowering educators and families to work as trusted allies in support of student success. Participants explored research-based tools and strategies from Learning Heroes designed to build trust, improve communication, and support students' social, emotional, and academic development. By fostering a culture of partnership, Bakersfield City School District is laying the groundwork for stronger schools and healthier communities.



Drop In & Connect: CV R-TAC Office Hours

The Central Valley R-TAC invites all community schools grantees and partners to drop in for our monthly virtual office hours, held on the **first Tuesday of each month** from **9:00 to 10:00 AM**. This informal space offers a chance to ask questions, receive technical assistance, explore resources, and connect with fellow Community School leaders across the region. Whether you're looking for support or just want to stay engaged, we'd love to see you there. **Please join by clicking [HERE!](#)**

Partnering for Impact: CBOs & Schools

Join the Community Schools CBO & Grantee Networking Session on **October 28** from **3:30–4:30 PM!** This virtual gathering is designed for **CCSPP grantees and community-based organizations** to connect, collaborate, and align efforts with the Community Schools Framework. Together, we'll explore ways to maximize resources, strengthen partnerships, and support the whole-child approach to student success. **Sign up [HERE!](#)**

Contact Us: cvrtac@fcoe.org

Fresno

- **Gina Amaro-McNamara**, Director
- David Castro
- Dr. Angelica Reynosa
- Marisa Gamboa
- Charles Clancy

Kern

- **Anita Cruz**, Senior Director
- Angie Ranches
- Dr. Octavio Patiño
- Ericka Pineda

Stanislaus

- Eric Ranes
- Warren Scott

Keep Your Team Connected!

CCSPP grantees and community partners, help us keep everyone informed. If your team has new members, changes in staff, or updated emails, please share your current contact list so no one misses our weekly updates.

✉ **Email updates to cvrtac@fcoe.org**

