SCUSD Form B: Project Abstract - 2021–22 CCSPP Vision
The Guiding Principle of the Sacramento City Unified School District (SCUSD) is that “all students are given an equal opportunity to graduate with the greatest number of postsecondary choices from the widest array of options.” To actualize that directive, five SCUSD schools in South Sacramento formed a Community Schools network, applied for, and were awarded a Community Schools grant in 2020. The five school sites represent an elementary to middle to high school feeder pattern in a high-poverty area of South Sacramento. Each school site serves as a community hub within its neighborhood and shares many resources among all schools. This grant application will expand our existing Community Schools to four SCUSD regions anchored by a comprehensive high school and feeder middle and/or K-8 school. Feeder elementary schools will participate in their respective Community Schools networks, bringing supports and matching dollars. One high school (Luther Burbank) and K-8 school (John Still) participated in the South Sacramento network and will be named in this current grant opportunity as well, with an additional feeder middle school added to its network. The grant opportunity will expand one network and establish three new networks. The networks align closely to SCUSD Trustee area boundaries 1,4,5 and 6.
The vision of all SCUSD Community Schools networks is to create welcoming community hubs which engage, support and strengthen students, families and neighborhoods -- hubs that are sustained by strong family, schools, and community partnerships. Our Community Schools will work toward elevating the assets and meeting the needs of children by building a positive school climate through trusting relationships, combined with rich learning opportunities that prepare all students to succeed in life.
Participating Sites
The proposed Community Schools networks include Luther Burbank High, Fern Bacon Middle, and John Still K-8 (Area 4), Hiram Johnson High and Will C W ood Middle (Area 5), CK McClatchy High and California Middle (Area1), and John F. Kennedy High School and Rosa Parks K-8 (Area 6). Each of the nine sites has Unduplicated Pupil Counts of over 50%; six are well over 80%. Schools in each of the four Community Schools networks are identified as having the highest need based on the Student Services Equity Index. The Student Services Equity Index uses school data with a weighted formula to identify the schools most in need of student support services. Factors used are school enrollment, number of students identified as socio-economically disadvantaged, at risk of students being commercially

learning activities at school sites, including Sacramento-based Sacramento Chinese

Community Service Center, Rose Family Creative Empowerment Center, and

Empowering Possibilities Unlimited.

Community Engagement

At the District level, the Student Support and Health Services Director and Coordinator

oversee the school-site based Student Support Services teams. Instructional Assistant

Superintendents work closely with school site principals and the Student Support and

Health Services Department to ensure that services are coordinated at the Community

Schools network sites. The District’s Expanded Learning team works closely with

contracted community partners to provide expanded learning activities at sites.

SCUSD’s Family and Community Empowerment Office provides training, information

and technical assistance to assist schools in the creation of effective school-family

partnerships.

SCUSD and the schools participating in the Community Schools networks have deep

partnerships within the school and Sacramento communities. Partnerships and services

are coordinated through Student Support Center staff at each of the school sites.

County and community partnerships for resources and referrals include Sacramento

County Behavioral Health Services, Child Protective Services, River Oak Center for

Children; Another Choice Another Chance; La Familia Counseling Center; WellSpace

Health school-based health center; WEAVE; Sacramento Children's Home, Capitol Star,

CounteMMM

COVID-19, many of our students, families and staff continue to experience ongoing

trauma as a result of systemic racism and violence. Recent racist acts of violence

against Black, Indigenous, and People of Color, follow centuries of oppression. All

Student Support Services staff participated in over 20 hours each of professional

development in Healing Centered Engagement (HCE) through Flourish Agenda, an

asset-based and culturally-rooted approach to healing and well-being for young people

of color and their adult allies. At the end of the 2020-21 school year, all Student Support

Services staff became certified as Healing Centered Engagement practitioners.

Depending on the needs of the Community Schools network, grant funding will be

allocated to community partners to assist with a variety of student needs, providing

female mentors for student support groups; mentoring for students who are gang

involved or at risk for gang involvement; providing educational interventions that

increase students’ knowledge about the dangers of drug use, while also building

supportive connections with them; enhancing communication with Marshallese families

about the importance of school attendance; and offering culturally responsive services

and outreach in Dari and Pashto to our Afghan students, among other strategies.

Reflection and Assessment

The District and school sites utilize an Early Identification and Intervention system (EIIS)

to identify students who are struggling as early as possible so that we can take action to

directly support them. This is the core of the District’s equity, access and social justice

guiding principle of ensuring that all students have an equal opportunity to graduate with

the greatest number of postsecondary choices from the widest array of options. In

partnership with UC Merced and SCUSD’s Continuous Improvement and Accountability

Office, SSHS’ Student Support division created a “Student Support Database” within

EIIS to document all student support referrals, assessments, contacts and interventions,

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