

# COMMUNITY SCHOOLS of Inyo County - Planning Grant



*December 2023 Newsletter*

## Steering Committee

The goal of the Inyo County Community Schools Steering Committee is for all interest holders to participate in the community school transformation process by developing an engaging Needs and Assets Assessment plan.

Interest holders are those who represent students, families, staff, and community members. Ideal participants are those who represent the demographics of their community, want to hear from and value the ideas of other people with different experiences, and enjoy considering what could happen in the future. The roster and meeting locations of the steering committee(s) are currently being developed.

Committee meetings will be held every other monthly from January to June, providing the space for discussion and feedback, ensuring all voices are meaningfully involved in the decision-making process of how the Community Schools strategy proceeds.

The Committee will develop the Assessment questions based on local wonderings, derived from their review of existing information. The Committee will consider what they are seeing as well as what needs to be explored in order to gain more insights.

## Collaborative Leadership

In collaborative leadership, one of the four pillars of Community Schools, the assets and skillsets of all interest holders are uplifted to where all members of the community school are recognized as having agency and collective expertise to transform their schools. Collaborative leadership is the intentional practice of creating spaces where listening is prioritized and where students, families and educators have a say in the vision, goals and outcomes for their school community.

Community schools share a commitment in distributing power to uplift the voices of groups who have historically been excluded from power and is especially set to flourish in spaces where:

- Relationship-building is at the center
- Deep listening is a practice
- Trust is cultivated
- Self-reflection is ongoing

The Steering Committee meets the California Community Schools Partnership Program requirements for a shared decision making council, in order to apply for the second phase of Community School Implementation funding in February 2025.



Parents, students, teachers, principals, and community partners build a culture of professional learning, collective trust, and shared responsibility using strategies such as site-based leadership teams and teacher learning communities

**Collaborative Leadership  
and Practices**

**School Districts in the West  
County Consortium**



*Every community school is different. What will yours be like?*



**Inyo County Community Schools Coordinator: Serena Johnson**  
sjohnson@inyocoe.org or 760-873-3262 x2107 and <http://bit.ly/CommunitySchoolsNews>

