# **COMMUNITY SCHOOLS** of Inyo County - Planning Grant



## January 2024 Newsletter

#### Meet Jenna



Our newest Community School Coordinator, Jenna Horiuchi, joined the team on January 11. She will be serving Lone Pine and Owens Valley Unified Schools Districts in south Inyo County and looks forward to connecting with students, families, staff, and community members. Jenna hails from Fresno County but grew up in North Idaho. Prior to this role, she worked for the Great Basin Institute at Manzanar National Historic Site and helped shelve books at the Inyo County Free Library in Independence. Contact her at jhoriuchi@inyocoe.org and (760) 873-3262 x2241.

#### **WHAT'S NEXT?**

Jenna will be leading the South County Steering Committee (Lone Pine and Independence school districts) and Serena will be leading the North County Steering Committee (Round Valley, Bishop, and Big Pine school districts).

Steering Committees will meet in early February, with participants including students, parents, staff and community members from each Committee.

Watch for the exciting update in the February newsletter on how these meetings went and what is now planned for the listening project this spring!

### What is a Community School Transformation?

There's a before and after to any transformation. With recent events, such as the COVID-19 emergency, districts and schools experienced new ways that schools can connect to families and provide community services. The Community Schools strategy has the capacity to help coordinate, align, and potentially extend, a wide range of state, district, and school initiatives bringing equity and support to students and families. Implementation of the Community School strategy is driven by engagement with students, educational staff, and partners, to identify needs and assets as experienced in their daily lives. The Community Schools Coordinator serves as support and facilitator for this process, so reach out to them with questions and feedback! Identifying what

services exist, how to connect them to serve schools more effectively, and identifying which ones would improve your local school is all part of the transformation to a Community School.



School Districts in the West **County Consortium** 













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



