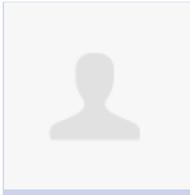


From: **NationBuilder** <notifications@nationbuilder.com>
Date: Thu, Sep 2, 2021 at 10:39 AM
Subject: [ccrc] Dave Ostash left feedback on Contact
To: Fredy Ceja <fredy.ceja@crc.ca.gov>

Dave Ostash left feedback on Contact

“California Citizens Redistricting Commission 721 Capitol Mall, Suite 260 Sacramento, CA 95814 Dear Commissioner, Sierra Sands Unified School District serves over 5,000 students from transitional kindergarten through 12th grade, as well as adult school. We serve students all throughout the Indian Wells Valley and maintain a fleet of district busses to transport students from a wide and remote geographic area. Sierra Sands unified back in the 1970’s, combining 4 separate and disjointed districts into one unified district. Incidentally, up until that point of unification, one of the four districts serving this eastern region of Kern County was the Kern Union High School District, going back to the 1940’s. I mention that because this eastern region in Kern County has very deep roots with government and agency integration within Kern County, state, and federal district lines. Sierra Sands operates very successfully under a comprehensive support structure provided by the Kern County Superintendent of Schools. The Kern County Superintendent of Schools Office offers two prominent joint powers agreement organizations that we rely very heavily upon: School Legal Services (SLS) and the Self Insured Schools of California (SISC). When it comes to safety at all ten of our district’s schools, we have longstanding partnerships with the Kern County Fire Department and Kern County Sheriff’s Department. In fact, one of our schools is not in the city limit and we are reliant upon the Kern County Sheriff’s department for law enforcement response. While we appreciate our local health providers in Ridgecrest, our school district also enjoys longstanding partnerships with county-led programs such as College Community Health Services. Various hard-to-find services, such as mental and behavioral services, are provided through county resources. Lastly, we do not have a 4-year university within the eastern region of Kern County. But we do have a California community college – Cerro Coso Community College is one of the colleges in the Kern Community College District located right here in Ridgecrest. We are extremely fortunate to have long standing articulation agreements and pathway opportunities, such as dual and concurrent enrollment programs, that are strongly supported by the Kern Community College District. In my 25 years of experience in the Sierra Sands Unified School District, I have seen firsthand how integrated our district is with agencies and services within Kern County. Continued representation by our elected officials within current district lines will be absolutely vital for the



Dave
Ostash



Point Person: [Fredy Ceja](#)