



## 2025-2026 Phase One: Executive Summary for Schools\_09292025\_13:10

2025-2026 Phase One: Executive Summary for Schools

**Kit Carson Elementary School**  
**Corean Rougeux**  
450 Tates Creek Road  
Richmond, Kentucky, 40475  
United States of America

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### Description of the School

Describe the school's size, community/communities, location, and changes it has experienced in the last three years. Include demographic information about the students, staff, and community at large. What unique features and challenges are associated with the community/communities the school serves?

Kit Carson Elementary School is located in Richmond, Kentucky. We currently serve approximately 400 students from grades 1st through 5th. Our student body is ~17% minority. Approximately 19% of students qualify for special education services. Currently, 52% of students qualify for free or reduced lunch. We have 1 principal, 1 guidance counselor, 34 certified teachers, and 24 classified staff. Kit Carson Elementary School has been serving the community since 1963 and many of our students are beyond the first or even second generation of their family attending our school. The school community is very supportive of the school. In 2013 the school celebrated our 50 Year Anniversary by hosting a grand celebratory event for our community. Kit Carson Elementary has been home to many families for multiple generations and is still housed in the original location with portions of the original building in use today. The faculty and staff of Kit Carson are all highly qualified with 50 percent of the teaching staff holding a Master's Degree and 25 percent holding a Rank I certification. Paraprofessionals are also highly qualified, having either completed a college degree, some college hours or having passed the Kentucky Paraprofessional exam successfully. The 2018 estimated population of Richmond, Kentucky is 35,397. Richmond is comprised of 87.1 percent Caucasian Americans, 8.5 percent African Americans and 4 percent Other. The average salary for Richmond, Kentucky is \$64,819, median salary is \$53,191 with a salary range from \$28,439 to \$200,000. (Richmond, KY salaries are collected from government agencies and companies. Each salary is associated with a real job position. Richmond, KY salary statistics is not exclusive and is for reference only.) The average travel time of workers who commute to work is 20 minutes. In 2018, 36.9 percent reported they owned their home. The percent of people who live in their home for more than one year is 68.5. Richmond is home to over 1,931 Veterans. 84.2 percent of the population has a high school diploma or higher while 28.2 percent has a Bachelor's degree or higher. Kit Carson has a large number of students now being raised by grandparents and we are working closely to support those families and their specific needs. Annually, we host a Back-To-School night and a parent information night to help parents/guardians/grandparents understand the expectations and strategies to help their children at home. Our Parent Teacher Organization provides a large support system to our school and teachers. Parent Night and Fall Festival are huge events at our school with most students and teachers participating. These games provide a healthy and active event for staff and students while raising money for classroom use. We value parent, guardian and community support. Our school currently uses iReady for our universal screener. iReady is a single K-12 adaptive Diagnostic, administered three times per year, for reading and mathematics which pinpoints student needs down to the sub-skill level, and measures ongoing progress. This monitoring shows whether students are on track to achieve end-of-year targets. Teachers also administer Fountas and Pinnell assessments for reading and Add+VantageMR assessments for math. Curriculum

has been revised in order to integrate the Kentucky Academic Standards; national standards adopted by the state of Kentucky. School-wide reading program is based on the work of Fountas and Pinnell and incorporates the use of an individual reading assessment, as well as a multi-level book room. Staff is using state standards and assessment data to drive the instruction in all content area classrooms. Flexible grouping is visible throughout all grade levels in Reading and heterogeneously grouped in Math in order for students to receive instruction at their individual level of academic ability. Professional learning communities (PLC) meet routinely in order to best utilize resources and differentiate instruction based on data analysis results. Our school is transitioning from a place of teaching to a place of learning.

### School Stakeholders

Identify and describe the school's stakeholder groups. How does the school ensure stakeholder involvement and engagement in the improvement planning process?

Stakeholders at Kit Carson Elementary School in Richmond, Kentucky, encompass a diverse and committed community dedicated to the education and well-being of its students. This includes not only the passionate and highly qualified educators who shape young minds daily but also the enthusiastic parents and guardians who actively engage in their children's academic journeys. Local businesses, organizations, and community leaders play a crucial role in supporting the school's various initiatives, contributing to a vibrant learning environment. Additionally, students themselves are vital stakeholders, as their perspectives and aspirations drive the school's continuous improvement efforts. Together, these stakeholders collaborate to foster a nurturing and enriching educational experience that empowers the next generation of leaders in Richmond, Kentucky.

### School's Purpose

Provide the school's purpose statement and supplementary content such as mission, vision, values, and/or beliefs, including the year in which they were last reviewed or revised. Describe how the school embodies its purpose through its program offerings and expectations for students and how stakeholders are involved in its development.

The current vision at Kit Carson Elementary is that we provide all students with learning opportunities that will allow them to reach their fullest potential while supporting their physical, emotional, and social well-being. Our vision is that we are courageous explorers, resourceful innovators, and fearless in our pursuit of knowledge. We are Trailblazers!

### Notable Achievements

Describe the school's notable achievements in the last three years.

Kit Carson has a Principal that is beginning year three. From the beginning, our principal asked each grade level team to have an open mind and be willing to grow in order to meet the needs of the students. We work to create a safe, nurturing and supportive environment where students can build self- confidence. We are committed to having parents, educators and community members involved in students' learning. Professional learning communities have allowed us to begin our transition from a school about teaching to a school about learning. Teachers now collaborate in PLC meetings to discuss data in order to drive instruction. Teachers share resources and strategies as well as work together to create pacing guides and instructional units. The next step in this process is to develop grade level goals and define what proficiency looks like for each grade. In addition, we are also using our iReady data to identify the amount of growth made during this first semester to determine if our core instruction needs revision and refinement. Small pieces have been embedded throughout our work the last two years. In addition to the above steps, our school has focused tremendously on transforming from a school about teaching to a school about learning. All staff have participated in job embedded training which is led mostly by teacher leaders. Every staff member completes a growth plan and is responsible for monitoring their own growth as well as being an active researcher. Outside agencies have also provided training on concepts such as student engagement, mastery learning, academic vocabulary, crossing the mid-line, metacognition strategies, formative assessment, learning intentions and learning criteria. During grade level professional learning community meetings staff members analyze data, develop formative and summative assessments, place students in flexible groups based on individual student need and discuss strategies used in the instructional setting which impacted learning. As a school we have also been diligent to focus on improving the culture of our school. We also have a Watch Dog program to involve more dads and to support our safety program. In addition to the Watch DOG program, the district hired a safety monitor to be present on the campus during student attendance days. Our school FRYSC director offers opportunities for parents to complete on-line applications to seek employment, sign up on-line for GED classes, financial literacy classes, Grandparents as Parents classes as well as provide clothing for interviews, make home visits when students have missed more than three days (excused or unexcused) in addition to many other services.

### Areas of Improvement

Describe areas for improvement that the school is striving to achieve in the next three years.

Kit Carson Elementary is a wonderful place to learn and grow. Educators at KCE are committed to providing opportunities in which students can explore and learn while feeling safe and supported.

### Additional Information

Provide any additional information you would like to share with the public and community that were not prompted in the previous sections.

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The school lives by the theme of growth, encouraging both academic and personal development. Through programs like iReady math and reading, Simple Solutions spiral review, and high-quality instructional resources, students are given the tools to achieve at high levels. The staff consistently looks for ways to celebrate progress, no matter how big or small.

# Attachment Summary

| Attachment Name | Description | Associated Item(s) |
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