

Tulare County Office of Education

Jim Vidak, County Superintendent of Schools

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For Immediate Release

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STC 733-6101**

Tulare County Office of Education Announces: **School-to-Career Partner Recognition Program to Present 28 Awards**

Tulare County educators, business leaders and administrators attended the Seventh Annual School-to-Career and Workforce Development Partnership Recognition Luncheon Wednesday, July 10, 2002.

Twenty-eight business, agency, community and education partners will be recognized for their ongoing efforts in creating quality workplace and classroom opportunities for Tulare County students and adults. To close the program, keynote speaker Ed Barlow will guide participants on a futuristic journey through the 21st century in a 45-minute presentation that outlines challenges and opportunities for participants to recognize.

Tulare County Superintendent of Schools Jim Vidak noted, "It has always been our hope that recognition events like this can become a springboard for expanding and enhancing collaboration between business, education and the community. Our School-to-Career staff was delighted with the turnout."

"It's always rewarding to recognize volunteers who have devoted so much of their valuable time to agencies and schools throughout the County. But more than that, this event gives people the opportunity to celebrate partnerships that work," noted School-to-Career Project Director Randy Wallace.

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In the seven years that School-to-Career and Workforce Development Partners have recognized partner efforts more than 125 individuals, agencies and companies have been honored for their commitment to preparing our students and adults for 21st century careers and opportunities. 2002 School-to-Career/Workforce Development Partnership Award recipients will include the following companies, agencies and individuals.

2002 Awardees:

Jo-Ann Stores Inc., Visalia Distribution Center
California Dairies Inc., Pixley
Gloria Simonetti-LifeCare Solutions
Ivex Corp., Visalia
Carol Mares
Mr. Dave Enns
College of the Sequoias-Student Services
Dr. Michael Ebaugh
Visalia Adult School
Patsy Nuckols
A & W Restaurant - Mooney Blvd.
California Restaurant Association Tulare/Kings Chapter
Jack-in-the Box, Porterville
Jim Maxfield
Lee Holland, Factory 2-U
Longs Drugs, Tulare
Ross Stores Inc., Visalia
Walnut Park Retirement Residence
Patrick Tazio, The Lifestyle Center
Educational Resource Services
Andy Oliva
Barbara Dicks
Tucoemas Federal Credit Union
Tom Beene
City of Dinuba
Steve Tietjen, Ed.D.
"Partners in Motions" Tulare County Employment Connection, Visalia
K-Mart- Tulare