

Tulare County Office of Education

Jim Vidak, County Superintendent of Schools

October 24, 2002

For Immediate Release

Contact: Pamela Kunze
Public Information Officer
559/733-6606

Tulare County Office of Education announces: Tulare County Office of Education Hires Administrator for California Friday Night Live Partnership

Visalia: The Tulare County Office of Education (TCOE) and County Superintendent Jim Vidak recently announced the hiring of Jim Kooler as the Administrator of the California Friday Night Live Partnership (CFNLP).

“We’re excited to welcome Jim as part of the Tulare County Office of Education and California Friday Night Live Partnership team,” says County Superintendent Vidak. “I believe Dr. Kooler’s vast experience with Friday Night Live and his impressive educational background will make him an ideal fit for this important position.”

Currently serving as Deputy Director of Governor Gray Davis’ Mentoring Partnership, Kooler has a long history of involvement with the Friday Night Live (FNL) Program. In 2001, Kooler finished ten years of service as the Deputy Director of Prevention for the California Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs where he was intimately involved with FNL. Prior to that, Kooler directed FNL programming as the Executive Director of the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Council of Contra Costa, Inc. Additionally, Kooler holds a doctorate in Public Health from the University of California, Berkely.

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Page 2

Kooler will begin serving as the Administrator of CFNLP in early November. He replaces Myel Jenkins who served as the program administrator for the past three years and resigned from the position in order to spend more time with her family.

Friday Night Live (FNL) builds partnerships for positive and healthy youth development which engage youth as active leaders and resources in their communities. Serving 56 counties across California, the California Friday Night Live Partnership acts as an umbrella for four innovative youth development programs targeted at three distinct age groups: Friday Night Live (grades 9-12); Club Live (grades 7-8); Friday Night Live Kids (grades 4-6); and Friday Night Live Mentoring (grades 7-12).

More information about the California Friday Night Live Partnership is available by visiting the TCOE website at www.tcoe.org or the CFNLP website at www.fridaynightlive.org.

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