

Tulare County Office of Education

Jim Vidak, County Superintendent of Schools

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For Immediate Release

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Tulare County Office of Education announces:
**Ken Wooden of Child Lures Prevention Program to Conduct Seminars in
Tulare and Fresno Counties**

At the invitation of Tulare County Office of Education Superintendent Jim Vidak, nationally recognized author and presenter, Ken Wooden, will conduct several seminars designed to teach parents and children how to recognize and thwart frequently used child abduction “lures”. Wooden will facilitate day and evening community awareness and prevention sessions throughout Tulare and Fresno Counties from Monday, Nov. 4, through Friday, Nov. 8.

“Tulare County Office of Education has a long-standing relationship with Ken Wooden,” explains Vidak. “Children and their safety are top priorities for us. We’re fortunate to have Ken Wooden and the Child Lures Prevention Program to teach our children and parents how to recognize and avoid frequently used abduction lures.”

Wooden, a child safety expert and investigative reporter, is creator and author of the Child Lures Prevention Program. Recently, at President Bush’s invitation, Wooden served as the sole prevention specialist on The White House Conference on Missing, Exploited and Runaway Children’s “*Preventing the Victimization of Children*” panel.

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The Child Lures Prevention Program teaches life skills to protect children and youth from sexual exploitation, abduction, Internet crime, drugs and school violence. It provides an understanding of the specific Lures used in these crimes and teaches proven prevention strategies so children can readily take steps to remove themselves from potentially dangerous situations.

Evening sessions are open to the public and are currently scheduled to be held at the following venues:

- November 4, 7:00 p.m., Maple Elementary School, Tulare
- November 5, 6:30 p.m., Jim Maples Academy, Porterville
- November 6, Fresno
- November 7, 6:30 p.m., Rotary Theatre, Visalia

More information is available by calling Tulare County Office of Education or by visiting the website at www.tcoe.org.

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