

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: La Sierra High School to Graduate Record Class June 2

The Tulare County Office of Education's La Sierra High School will graduate its largest class since the founding of the charter school program in 2000. Forty-seven students will graduate in a combined ceremony of senior classes from La Sierra High School in Porterville, La Sierra High School in Visalia and La Sierra Military Academy in Visalia. The ceremony will be held in the new garden on the La Sierra campus at 1735 East Houston in Visalia, Wednesday, June 2, beginning at 6:30 pm. This is the first ceremony to be held in the garden space, which was designed and constructed by La Sierra students.

The La Sierra high schools were created to give students training in a vocational skill along with traditional academic studies. The program utilizes the SEE & Co. (Services for Education and Employment) Training Center for instruction in a variety of trades, including Graphic Arts, Web Site

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Design, Culinary Arts, Hospitality Trades, and Child Care. SEE & Co. has 25 years of experience in education and employment.

Tulare County Superintendent of Schools Jim Vidak says, “It has been rewarding to watch this program grow and to see the success students have had learning practical skills along with their traditional studies. But the best reward is witnessing the many positive attitude transformations among the students, their teachers, peers and families,” concludes Superintendent Vidak.

The graduation ceremony will begin with a team of students from La Sierra Military Academy presenting the colors. Dustin Phillips, the only freshman admitted to the program when it was formed in 2000, is the Visalia class valedictorian. Elizabeth Gutierrez is the Porterville class valedictorian.

For more information, contact Robert Herman, Public Information Officer, at 733-6606.

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