

Tulare County Office of Education

Jim Vidak, County Superintendent of Schools

March 3, 2006

For Immediate Release

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Tulare County Office of Education Announces:

Annual Tulare County Regional Science Olympiad

Divisions B&C – College of the Sequoias – March 11, 2006

Division A – El Diamante High School – April 22, 2006

Science Olympiad tournaments are rigorous academic interscholastic competitions that consist of a series of individual and team events for which students prepare throughout the year. These events are balanced between the various science disciplines of biology, earth science, chemistry, physics and technology.

There is also a balance between science facts, process, skills and applications. Locally, over 550 students from more than 25 schools compete in the annual regional competitions held in the spring. The Science Olympiad is divided up into three divisions: Division A - grades 3 – 6; Division B - grades 6 – 9; and Division C - grades 9 – 12.

The B and C Divisions are held at the College of the Sequoias in Visalia, Saturday, March 11, 2005.

Students from sixth through twelfth grade will be launching rockets, building bridges, solving science crimes, designing experiments and participating in a variety of engaging scientific explorations.

Individual and team awards are presented with the top three teams in the B and C Divisions advancing to the NorCal State Science competition. The 2006 NorCal State Science competition will be held on April 1, 2006, at University of California, Merced.

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Division A is held at El Diamante High School, Visalia, on Saturday, April 22, 2006. Students from third through sixth grade will be building circuits, designing clay boats, dropping eggs to see if they survive, launching rockets and participating in fun-filled science activities. Individual and team awards will be presented at the conclusion of the event.

“Our students spend a great deal of their own time preparing for this event,” says Tulare County Superintendent of Schools Jim Vidak. “We appreciate their tremendous efforts, and the support of their coaches and teachers.” The Division B&C events will begin with opening ceremonies at 8:00 a.m. Competitions will begin at 8:30 a.m. throughout the COS campus with the awards ceremony scheduled for 2:30 p.m. in the Quadrangle. The Division A event begins with an opening ceremony on the El Diamante campus at 8:30 a.m. Individual competitions begin at 9:00 a.m.

Science Olympiad is an international non-profit organization devoted to improving the quality of science education, increasing student interest in science, and providing recognition for outstanding achievement in science education by both students and teachers.

For more information, contact Science Instructional Consultant Jonathan Janzen at 651-3043.

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