

# Tulare County Office of Education

*Jim Vidak, County Superintendent of Schools*

February 22, 2007

## **For Immediate Release**

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**Tulare County Office of Education Announces:**

## **Annual Anti-Tobacco Challenge Bowl**

**February 22, 2007 • 9:00 am – 3:00 pm • Visalia Convention Center, Exhibit Hall**

Teams of sixth graders will participate in the annual Anti-Tobacco Challenge Bowl February 22.

The competition – co-hosted by the Tulare County Office of Education's Choices and Nutrition Network Programs, American Cancer Society, Tulare County Health & Human Services Agency Tobacco Control Project, FoodLink for Tulare County, Blue Cross of California and the California Health Collaborative – is designed to prevent tobacco use in adolescence through education. Large and small schools from Visalia, Dinuba, Cutler-Orosi, Tulare, Strathmore, Ducor, Lemon Cove, Springville and Tipton are registered to compete in the event.

The Challenge Bowl is run in a game-show style format of quick recall and response. Prior to the competition, schools have several weeks to prepare their five-member teams with curriculum containing tobacco education. "The Challenge Bowl is a fun and educational competition loaded with valuable information for students at a critical point in their lives — before entering middle school where some will be presented with the temptation to use tobacco," says Tulare County Superintendent of Schools Jim Vidak.

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The competition portion of the event lasts from 9:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m., with a break for lunch and activities provided by the Tulare County Friday Night Live program. Gift certificates will be given to each member of the top three teams.

For more information, please contact Robert Herman, Public Information Officer at (559) 733-6606.

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