

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:

Annual Tulare County Science Olympiad

Divisions B&C – College of the Sequoias – March 10, 2007

Division A – El Diamante High School – April 14, 2007

Science Olympiad tournaments are rigorous academic interscholastic competitions consisting of a series of individual and team events. 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, processes, skills and applications. Locally, over 750 students from more than 30 schools compete in the annual competitions. The Science Olympiad is divided into three divisions: Division A - grades 3 – 6; Division B - grades 6 – 9; and Division C - grades 9 – 12.

The Division B and C competition will be held at the College of the Sequoias in Visalia, Saturday, March 10, 2007. 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 2007 NorCal State Science competition will be held on April 21, 2007, at University of California, Merced.

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Division A is held at El Diamante High School, Visalia, on Saturday, April 14, 2007. 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.

“Students and coaches spend a great deal of their own time preparing for these events,” says Tulare County Superintendent of Schools Jim Vidak. “That’s part of the reason Science Olympiad is so amazing to watch.” The Division B and C events begin March 10 with opening ceremonies at 8:20 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 on April 14, 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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