

Tulare County Office of Education

Jim Vidak, County Superintendent of Schools

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Media Alert

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Tulare County Office of Education Announces:

Teams Compete in First Student Entrepreneur Challenge May 22

9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. • El Diamante High School, 5100 West Whitendale, Visalia

On Tuesday, May 22, five teams of young entrepreneurs from Tulare and Kings County high schools will present projects they have developed in response to The Gas Company Student Entrepreneur Challenge, which was launched January 25, 2007. The Challenge is a new event sponsored by The Gas Company and designed to encourage students to develop products, services or other economic growth ideas that can be applied in the San Joaquin Valley. Teams participating in the event this year are: Tulare Tech Prep High School, Monache High School in Porterville, Lemoore High School, Golden West High School in Visalia and El Diamante High School in Visalia. Projects range from alternative fuel delivery systems to a school-based health program to a Central Valley consulting firm dealing with the critical issues faced by the region.

The teams will compete for a variety of prizes, including a “Best Overall” award worth \$2,000.

In total, over \$5,000 in prizes will be given to the participating high school programs.

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The Student Entrepreneur Challenge was created from the vision and support of The Gas Company with coordination by the Tulare County Office of Education and the Lyles Center for Entrepreneurial Studies at Fresno State. Other supporters include the Tulare County Economic Development Corporation and the Kings County Economic Development Corporation. The Challenge's partnership between business and education, working together to promote entrepreneurialism, also supports Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger's recently released proposal for the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley.

"We are pleased by the participation in the first annual Student Entrepreneur Challenge and by The Gas Company's generous support for these high school programs," says Tulare County Superintendent of Schools Jim Vidak. "We look forward to seeing the presentations developed by these teams and the ideas and partnerships that evolve from them."

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

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