

# Tulare County Office of Education

*Jim Vidak, County Superintendent of Schools*

April 9, 2008

## **For Immediate Release**

**Contact:** Robert Herman  
Public Information Officer  
(559) 733-6606 – office  
(559) 303-8568 – cell

**Tulare County Office of Education Announces:**

## **Annual Tulare County Science Olympiad Continues for Elementary School Students**

**El Diamante High School, Visalia • April 12, 2008 • Division A Students (Grades 3-6)**

Hundreds of elementary school students will converge on Visalia's El Diamante High School this Saturday, April 12, 2008 for the second half of the annual Science Olympiad competition. Students from third through sixth grade will be building circuits, testing the elasticity of "gunk," dropping eggs to see if they survive, launching catapults and participating in fun-filled science activities. The event begins with an opening ceremony on the El Diamante campus at 8:30 a.m. Individual competitions begin at 9:00 a.m. Individual and team awards will be presented at the conclusion of the event.

Science Olympiad tournaments are rigorous academic 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.

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The Science Olympiad competition is divided into three divisions: Division A (grades 3 – 6); Division B (grades 6 – 9); and Division C (grades 9 – 12). The Divisions B and C competition (for middle and high school students) was held at the College of the Sequoias in Visalia, Saturday, March 8, 2008.

“Participants have such a good time at the event, it’s easy to catch their enthusiasm for the science behind the competition,” says Tulare County Superintendent of Schools Jim Vidak.

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 Instructional Consultant Jonathan Janzen at (559) 651-3043.

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