

# Tulare County Office of Education

*Jim Vidak, County Superintendent of Schools*

March 4, 2009

## **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**

**Divisions B and C: College of the Sequoias – March 14, 2009**

**Division A: El Diamante High School – April 4, 2009**

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. Locally, over 500 students compete in the annual events. 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 **Divisions B and C Competition** (for middle and high school students) will be held at the **College of the Sequoias in Visalia, Saturday, March 14, 2009**. Students from sixth through twelfth grade will be launching rockets, piloting robotic vehicles, solving science crimes, designing experiments and participating in a variety of engaging scientific explorations. The Division B and C events begin 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

- more -

# Tulare County Office of Education

*Jim Vidak, County Superintendent of Schools*

Page 2

the Quadrangle. The top three middle and high school teams advance to the 2009 NorCal State Science competition on April 18, 2009, at Delta College in Stockton.

**Division A** (for elementary school students) will be held at **El Diamante High School, Visalia**, on Saturday, **April 4**. 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 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. Individual and team awards will be presented at 12:45 p.m.

“We appreciate the effort of the coaches and parents who prepare students for these demanding competitions,” 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.

# TCOE #

Rel: 14/09