

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:

Tulare County Council on Child & Youth Development seeks nominations for 5th annual *Business and Children Award*

The Tulare County Council on Child & Youth Development (formerly the Tulare County Child Care Planning Council) would like to recognize Tulare County businesses that have child-friendly employment practices. The Council is currently seeking nominations for its annual ***Business and Children Award***. The award recognizes a Tulare County business with progressive programs which could include "flextime" or job-sharing options, company-provided child care benefits, or an on-site child care center.

The award program also highlights the benefits of a child-friendly workplace – benefits that include increased employee motivation and loyalty, and enhanced company reputation. Previous award recipients include: UPS Corporate Credit Visalia, TPG Consulting, Inc., Visalia Ceramic Tile, Inc., Adair & Evans, An Accountancy Corporation and M. Green & Company LLP Certified Public Accountants.

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“It is important that the community recognize businesses for their efforts to meet the needs of employees with children,” said Tulare County Superintendent of Schools Jim Vidak. “Child-friendly businesses can make the difference for parents who might not otherwise work without the flexibility and benefits they provide.”

“Having businesses out there that provide child-friendly employment practices makes it easier for employees to find a balance between their professional and personal lives, which is a tough task for any parent,” said Allen Ishida, Chairman of the Tulare County Board of Supervisors. “I would like to commend all organizations who offer their employees options for child care.”

Nomination forms are available online at www.tularecountykids.org. For more information contact Tina Shirley, Planning Council Coordinator at (559) 651-1723. Nominations must be received by September 13, 2012. The winner will be announced at the fifth annual Tulare County Child Care Planning Council Legislative Breakfast on October 4, 2012.

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