

# 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: 700 young women expected to attend 13th annual Expanding Your Horizons Conference College of the Sequoias – October 20, 2012**

For the 13th consecutive year, Tulare County Office of Education and the College of the Sequoias will host “Expanding Your Horizons” (EYH), a student event designed to encourage young women in grades 4 through 10 to explore careers in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). Scheduled for Saturday, October 20 at College of the Sequoias, the conference showcases math and science-related fields in innovative and interesting ways. It also helps young women form personal contacts with women working in professions traditionally held by men, and allows them to meet other young women interested in math and science.

This year, Dr. Thelma Hurd, a Surgical Oncologist, Associate Professor of Surgery and Clinical Assistant Professor in the Department of Biostatistics and Epidemiology at the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio (Texas), will deliver the keynote address to a full conference of an estimated 700 young women. Dr. Hurd’s address is scheduled to begin at 8:45 a.m.

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Following the morning address, professional women from throughout the state will lead hands-on workshops. EYH participants can explore careers and opportunities in the STEM fields by attending workshops such as “E & M Reptile Family,” “Lift-Off: What Makes Rockets Fly?,” and “Design a Shoe to Learn About Engineering.”

"We are proud to once again host Expanding Your Horizons," says Tulare County Superintendent of Schools Jim Vidak. "The purpose of the conference is to explain options and expand opportunities for our students that they may not have considered. It's important for young women to not only hear about careers based in math and science, but also identify with women who are leading the way in these fields. EYH presents outstanding opportunities for both," Vidak explains.

For additional information contact Rob Herman, Tulare County Office of Education Public Information Officer, at 559-733-6606. For event specifics, contact Paula Terrill of Tulare County Office of Education's Educational Resource Services at 559-651-0565.

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