

# Tulare County Office of Education

*Jim Vidak, County Superintendent of Schools*

February 25, 2014

## **Media Advisory**

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**Tulare County Office of Education Announces:**

## **14<sup>th</sup> Annual Anti-Tobacco Challenge Bowl**

**February 26, 2014 · 9:00 am – 2:30 pm · Visalia Holiday Inn, 9000 W. Airport Dr.**

Teams of sixth-graders are preparing to participate in the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Anti-Tobacco Challenge Bowl February 26. The competition – hosted by the Tulare County Office of Education’s Choices Prevention Program – is designed to prevent tobacco use in adolescence through education. At this time, 14 schools have registered 25 teams to compete in the Anti-Tobacco Challenge Bowl, including Alpaugh Elementary, Frank Kohn Elementary (Tulare), Sequoia Union School (Lemon Cove), Pixley Middle School, Oak Valley Union School (Tulare), Earlimart Middle School, Waukena Joint Union School (Tulare), Springville Union School, Pleasant View School (Porterville), Alice Mulcahy Middle School (Tulare), Los Tules Middle School (Tulare), Pleasant Elementary (Tulare), Palo Verde Union School (Tulare) and Kings River Union School (Kingsburg).

The Challenge Bowl is run in a game show-style format of quick call and response. Prior to the competition, schools have several weeks to prepare their five-member teams utilizing tobacco education curriculum. “Students participating in the Challenge gain valuable information on the

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dangers of tobacco use,” says Tulare County Superintendent of Schools Jim Vidak. “It’s particularly valuable at this point in their lives before the temptation to use tobacco is presented.”

The competition portion of the event lasts from 9:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m., including a break for lunch and activities provided by the Tulare County Friday Night Live program. The awards ceremony will begin at approximately 2:00 p.m.

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

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