

# Tulare County Office of Education

*Jim Vidak, County Superintendent of Schools*

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## **Media Advisory**

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**Tulare County Office of Education Announces:**

## **Migrant education elementary students to be honored for journalism project February 2**

**4:30 – 6:00 p.m., TCOE Planetarium & Science Center, 11535 Avenue 264, Visalia**

Migrant education students in grades 3-5 from Tulare City School District, Tipton School District, Earlimart School District and Pixley Union School District will be honored for the work they did in producing a full-size newspaper called “The Migrant Voice”, as part of the new Migrant Journalism Project. The students worked alone or in groups to research, interview and write nearly 20 articles focusing on California’s drought and its impact on Tulare County.

The Migrant Journalism Project was envisioned by Migrant Education administrators and instructional leaders from TCOE’s Educational Resource Services. The project was designed to help students transition from being English learners to proficient in the English language. Over a year ago, Migrant administrators began working with staff from Loyola Marymount University’s Center for Equity for English Learners (CEEL). CEEL administrators Dr. Gisela O’Brien and Dr. Elvira Armas helped design the curriculum and conduct the trainings for the Tulare County teachers that would lead the project.

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The Journalism Project had four desired student outcomes: 1. Experience the role of a journalist by gathering information, interviewing people and writing articles; 2. Practice listening, speaking, reading and writing skills in English; 3. Learn about the language features of journalism as an expository genre; and 4. Increase ownership and self-awareness of learning skills and strategies.

The result of the Migrant Journalism Project is a beautiful newspaper full of articles that helped to advance students in developing listening, speaking, reading and writing skills in meaningful ways.

For more information on the Migrant Journalism Project, contact Anna Leon or Shantall Porchia at (559) 651-3035.

# TCOE #