

# Tulare County Office of Education

*Tim A. Hire, County Superintendent of Schools*

February 25, 2019

## **Media Advisory**

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**Tulare County Office of Education Announces:**

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

**February 27, 2019 · 9:00 am – 2:00 pm · Wyndham Hotel Visalia, 9000 W. Airport Dr.**

Five-member teams of sixth graders are preparing to participate in the 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Anti-Tobacco Challenge Bowl on February 27. The competition – hosted by the Tulare County Office of Education’s CHOICES Prevention Program – is designed to prevent tobacco and marijuana use in adolescence through education. At this time, 16 schools have registered 24 teams to compete in the event, including Ducor Union School, Earlimart Middle School, Pleasant View School (Porterville), Grandview Elementary (Dinuba), Kings River Union School (Kingsburg), Los Tules Middle School (Tulare), Palo Verde Union School (Tulare), Rockford School (Porterville), Sequoia Union School (Lemon Cove), Sunnyside Union School (Strathmore), Three Rivers Union School, Tipton School, Waukena Joint Union School (Tulare), Wilson Middle School (Exeter), Woodlake Valley Middle School, and Woodville Union School (Porterville).

The Anti-Tobacco Challenge Bowl is run in a game show-style, double elimination format. Prior to the competition, schools have several weeks to prepare their five-member teams utilizing tobacco and marijuana education curriculum. “Today, students are presented with a variety of smoking, vaping, marijuana and marijuana-infused products available through an increasing number of sources,” says

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Tulare County Superintendent of Schools Tim Hire. “By preparing for the Challenge Bowl, students gain valuable information on the dangers of these products and consequences of their use at a critical time in their young lives.”

The competition portion of the event lasts from 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m., including a break for lunch and activities, and time for the development of artwork on the dangers of tobacco use.

For more information, please contact Robert Herman, public information officer at (559) 733-6606.

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