

# Tulare County Office of Education

*Jim Vidak, County Superintendent of Schools*

December 14, 2001

## **MEDIA ALERT**

Contact: Robert Herman  
Public Information Officer  
559/733-6606

### **Tulare County Office of Education Announces: Senator Jack O'Connell to Visit Tulare County Schools December 17, 2001**

State Senator Jack O'Connell will visit several Tulare County schools on Monday, December 17, 2001, accompanied by County Superintendent of Schools Jim Vidak. The Senator will begin with a tour of the Tulare County Office of Education's La Sierra Charter High School at 1735 E. Houston Ave. in Visalia at approximately 11:00 am. La Sierra, a vocational high school operated through the Services for Education & Employment (SEE) Program, was founded in September 2000. La Sierra students can earn a certificate in one of ten vocational fields including: Graphic Arts, Printing, Culinary Arts, Hospitality, Business Administration, Child Care, Building Trades, Retail Sales, Maintenance and Landscaping. The goal of the program is to improve the employability of its students by encouraging high school completion and post-secondary education and/or training. La Sierra also assists students in addressing barriers that impair their ability to make successful transitions from school to work. The school's current enrollment is 125 students.

Following lunch at the SEE Program, Senator O'Connell and Superintendent Vidak will visit the Pleasant Elementary School and Tulare Union High School in Tulare. Pleasant Elementary is located at 1855 West Pleasant in Tulare. Tulare Union is located at 755 East Tulare in Tulare. For an updated schedule, contact Robert Herman at 972-0070 on Monday morning.

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