

news galleryweek

November 20, 2019

TCOE employees honored for their years of service



Last week, the Human Resources Division hosted a dinner for employees who celebrated service milestones at the Tulare County Office of Education this year. A total of 126 staff members were recognized at the annual TCOE Longevity Awards. The program honored employees who had 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, and 35 years of service.

John Rodriguez, Human Resources director, noted that the TCOE teachers, support staff, and administrators honored this year gave a combined 2,200 years of exemplary service to the students and school districts supported by the Tulare County Office of Education.



35 YEAR HONOREE

Linda Torres, Early Childhood Education Program

30 YEAR HONOREES

Theresa Benavente, Early Childhood Education Program

Debbie Bradley, Special Services AcCEL Program

Tony Cavanagh, CHOICES Programs

Sally Coronado, Bright Start Program

Vince Delgado, Internal Business Services

Elaine Grande, School Health Program

Beatrice Humann, SCICON

Charlotta Jarman, Early Childhood Education Program

Robbin Johnson, Special Services Related Services

Linda Rice, Special Services AcCEL Program

Sherri Rocha, External Business Services

25 YEAR HONOREES

Diana Alford, Court/Community Schools

Nan Arnold, School Health Programs

Roger Beavers, Maintenance & Operations

Maria Cerda, Early Childhood Education Program

Elvira Labelle, Early Childhood Education Program

Celestina Martinez, Early Childhood Education Program

Mark Martinez, External Business Services

Connie Romero, Early Childhood Education Program

Christine Serna, Early Childhood Education Program

Josie Valdez, Early Childhood Education Program

Lucinda Vasquez, Early Childhood Education Program

Regina Vasquez, Early Childhood Education Program

Susan Wendt, Special Services AcCEL Program

20 YEAR HONOREES

Sharon Adams, Special Services AcCEL Program

Joyce Akman, Special Services AcCEL Program

Carolyn Angulo, Early Childhood Education Program

Juana Barragan, Early Childhood Education Program

Leslie Bell, Special Services AcCEL Program

Susana Blackwell, Early Childhood Education Program

Georgia Carney, Special Services AcCEL Program

Mang Chang, Services for Education & Employment

Xiong Chang, Early Childhood Education Program

Lisa Conrad, Special Services AcCEL Program

Cathleen Crookshanks, Bright Start Program

Debbie Deathriage, Maintenance & Operations

Randy Elzig, Internal Business Services

Leticia Gil, Special Services AcCEL Program

Sandra Gold, Bright Start Program
Sylvia Gomez, Early Childhood Education Program
Yolanda Herrera, Early Childhood Education Program
Erika Izazaga, Early Childhood Education Program
Heather Kellerhals, Early Childhood Education Program
Tammy Lockridge, Special Services AcCEL Program
Gloria Mariscal, Migrant Education
Maria Marquez, Human Resources
Yolanda Mejia, Special Services AcCEL Program
Maria Mendez, Early Childhood Education Program
Patty Najera, Special Services AcCEL Program
Norma Navarro, Early Childhood Education Program
Sheila Oaks, Special Services AcCEL Program
Benny Rivera, Services for Education & Employment
Rosa Rosales, Early Childhood Education Program
Marlayna Slater, Special Services AcCEL Program
Janelle Smith, Internal Business Services
Mary Torres, Early Childhood Education Program
Daniel Trevino, Special Services AcCEL Program
Elodia Uribe, Early Childhood Education Program
Maria Isabel Valenzuela, Early Childhood Education Program
Sonia Villarreal, Early Childhood Education Program

15 YEAR HONOREES

Maria Aguayo de Hernandez, Early Childhood Education Program
Eva Arias, Early Childhood Education Program
Lisa Boss, Early Childhood Education Program
Pamela Castillo, Special Services AcCEL Program
John Cemo, Special Services AcCEL Program
Graciela Cid, Early Childhood Education Program
Rosalva Cisneros, Early Childhood Education
Claudia Contreras, Early Childhood Education Program
Maria Cruz, Early Childhood Education Program
Sara Diaz, Early Childhood Education Program
Anita Eidschun, Early Childhood Education Program
Erica Gomez, Special Services AcCEL Program
Maria Gomez-Guerra, Special Services AcCEL Program
Robert Herman, Administration
Beatrice Hernandez, Early Childhood Education Program
Kristen Jamero Range, Special Services AcCEL Program
Loretta Jones, Early Childhood Education Program
Nicki Kennedy, Special Services AcCEL Program
Karen Lee, Special Services AcCEL Program
Karen Muro, Education Options, La Sierra Charter School
Monica Navarro, Early Childhood Education Program
Maria Ortiz, Educational Resource Services

Heather Roberson, Bright Start Program
Faviola Rodriguez, Special Services AcCEL Program
Marisol Rodriguez, Special Services AcCEL Program
Dacia Silva, Special Services AcCEL Program
Francisco Velasquez, Court/Community Schools
Marisa Wright, Special Services Related Services

10 YEAR HONOREES

Jaysi Acebo, Intervention Resource Classrooms
Andrew Adams, Bright Start Program
Saul Altamirano, Educational Resource Services
Therese Arnold, College & Career
Tyger Bates, Leadership Support Services
Goldamier Bermudez, CHOICES Programs
Breanna Blaswich, Internal Business Services
Michelle Branco, Bright Start Programs
Catalina Cardenas, Behavioral Health Services
Maria Janeth Ceballos Andrade, Special Services AcCEL Program
Mireslavia Colunga, Special Services AcCEL Program
Jordan Davis, Early Childhood Education Program
Guadalupe Gonzalez, Special Services AcCEL Program
Bethany Guerra, Bright Start Program
Renee Handley, Intervention Resource Classrooms
Amanda Livermore, Special Services AcCEL Program
Sinoeun Mao, Early Childhood Education Program
Estela Martinez, Special Services AcCEL Program
Helen Milliorn-Feller, University Prep High School
Maria Navarro, Special Services AcCEL Program
Elisabet Nuñez, Early Childhood Education Program
Martha Nuñez de Valero, Special Services AcCEL Program
Amelia Quinonez, Educational Resource Services
Cynthia Ramirez, Special Services AcCEL Program
Paul Ramos, Special Services AcCEL Program
Tamara Reed, Special Services AcCEL Program
John Rodriguez, Human Resources
Maria Ruiz, Bright Start Program
Maria Saiz, Special Services AcCEL Program
Noelia Salinas, Early Childhood Education Program
Sarah Santano, Human Resources
Kate Stover, Educational Resource Services
Melvie Tamayo, Internal Business Services
Tamara Taylor, Bright Start Program
Juan Torres, Internal Business Services
Carlie Vallejos, Bright Start Program
Michelle Vega-Martinez, Special Services AcCEL Program

Photos above:

~ 30-year honorees (left to right) Sherri Rocha (External Business Services), Tony Cavanagh (CHOICES Program), Elaine Grande (School Health Program), Bea Humann (SCICON), Charlotta "Yvette" Jarman (Early Childhood Education Program), and Sally Coronado (Bright Start Program)

~ 25-year honorees (left to right) Susan Wendt (Special Services AcCEL Program), Lucinda Vasquez (Early Childhood Education Program), Mark Martinez (External Business Services), Connie Romero (Early Childhood Education Program), and Josie Valdez (Early Childhood Education Program)

Tulare County Theater Boosters create *Frozen JR* Meet the Characters event



The Tulare County Theater Boosters have organized a special event in conjunction with the Theatre Company's fall production of *Frozen JR*. At noon on Saturday, November 23, the Theater Boosters will hold a Meet the Characters event at the L.J. Williams Theater. Queen Elsa, Princess Anna, and their loyal friend Olaf will be available for photographs. Tickets to the Meet the Characters event are \$10 per person and are available by calling Candee Peters at (559) 303-9644. Tickets to performances of *Frozen JR* are additional and purchased separately.

"We appreciate the tremendous support the Theater Boosters provide our program," said Tim Hire, Tulare County Superintendent of Schools. "With each production, these parents and community members help make costumes, promote our musicals, conduct fundraisers, and run things backstage. The hours the boosters donate each year is immeasurable and priceless!"

Frozen JR will be performed four times November 21, 22, and 23 at the L.J. Williams Theater in Visalia. The musical incorporates all of the memorable songs from the popular animated Disney film, plus five new songs written for the Broadway production.

SCHEDULE OF PERFORMANCES

L.J. Williams Theater, 1001 W. Main St., Visalia

Show Times

Evening Shows (7:00 p.m.): November 21, 22, and 23

Matinee Show (2:00 p.m.): November 23

Show Ticket Information

\$12 general admission / \$20 preferred seating

now available at Visalia TCOE locations:

6200 S. Mooney Blvd. and 7000 Doe Ave.

Monday through Friday during normal business hours

Cash or check only.

Tickets may also be purchased at the door, or by phone by calling (559) 651-1482, ext. 3329.

ABC30's next *Children First* special to focus on vaping



ABC30 is producing a special entitled *Children First: Vaping Crisis*, which will air Sunday, December 15 at 6:30 p.m. The special will examine the alarming increase in the use of vaping products among children and teens, and the harmful side effects of the practice.

Included in the special is an interview with Dr. Geetanjali Srivastava, medical director of Emergency Medicine with Valley Children's Hospital, speaking on various potentially-fatal lung conditions seen in patients who vape. The special will also include a segment about the vaping education Tulare County students are receiving through the CHOICES Program Proposition 56 Grant.

Since July 2018, the CHOICES Program has received three grants from the Proposition 56 Tobacco Tax Increase Initiative which it has been using to partner with various Tulare County school districts and law enforcement agencies. CHOICES staff and law enforcement agents present grade-level appropriate curriculum on the short- and long-term effects of tobacco and vape use and how tobacco companies target youth to buy and use their products. The curriculum

also helps students develop the communication, assertiveness, and conflict resolution skills to say “no” in high pressure situations.

Law enforcement officers also help with school presentations and meet with tobacco retailers in the county, assessing their placement of tobacco and vaping products and advertisements in accordance with state laws.

For more information on the *Children First* specials, visit abc30.com/tag/children-first.

Photo above:

~ Tulare County Superintendent of Schools Tim Hire listens as students from Buena Vista School discuss a lesson on vaping. ABC30 cameraman Luis Ramentas films the discussion for an upcoming Children First special on vaping. The special will air Sunday, December 15 at 6:30 p.m. on ABC30.

Pumpkin patches promote physical activity and nutrition education



Last month, TCOE's Nutrition Education Obesity Prevention (NEOP) Program created pumpkin patches at 14 Tulare County schools. NEOP, a School Health Program, distributed pumpkins to

nearly 6,900 very happy elementary and middle school students, along with lessons on the seasonal favorite, physical activities, and a tasting of pumpkin pudding.

The NEOP program supports health and nutrition education in Dinuba, Exeter, Terra Bella, and Woodlake schools. For more information, visit tcoe.org/nutrition.

Photo above:

~ Students at Roosevelt Elementary in Dinuba enjoy the pumpkins they selected at the Pumpkin Patch event organized by the Nutrition Education Obesity Prevention Program.

Tulare County schools take the Cardboard Challenge



The Global Cardboard Challenge is an annual event founded by the Imagination Foundation and hosted locally by TCOE. This event was originally inspired by the short film *Caine's Arcade*, which features a very creative nine-year-old boy from Los Angeles who built his own game arcade out of cardboard and hosted visitors at it in his father's car parts shop. During the months of September and October, Tulare County Schools were invited to participate by holding Cardboard Challenges at their school sites.

Educators were encouraged to watch *Caine's Arcade* (youtu.be/falFNkdq96U) with their students to foster creativity. Students from Alila Elementary School in Earlimart, Butterfield Charter School in Porterville, FJ White Learning Center in Woodlake, and Palm School in Orosi took the challenge, using their imaginations to design cardboard creations. The goal of the Cardboard Challenge is to encourage creativity and spark students' interests in engineering and related fields. Teachers interested in ideas and resources to host a Cardboard Challenge at their

school are encouraged to contact Educational Resource Services' Juliana Davidian at juliana.davidian@tcoe.org.

Photo above:

~ Students at FJ White Learning Center in Woodlake were among four Tulare County schools that participated in the Cardboard Challenge last month. The national event was developed to celebrate and encourage creativity in children.

Coming Up!

- **November 4 - December 23**
A Holiday in the City
(annual exhibition of holiday porcelain buildings and figurines)
TCOE Administration Building Lobby, 6200 S. Mooney Blvd., Visalia
- **November 12 - December 30**
Student Art Exhibition
TCOE Administration Building Lobby, 6200 S. Mooney Blvd., Visalia
[More information.](#)
- **November 21 - 23**
Theatre Company Fall Musical *Frozen JR*
L.J. Williams Theater, 1001 W. Main St., Visalia
[More information.](#)
- **November 22**
Planetarium Public Show
6:00pm: *Earth, Moon, and Sun*
7:00pm: *From Earth to the Universe*
Peña Planetarium, 11535 Avenue 264, Visalia
[More information.](#)

View more events at tcoe.org/CalendarofEvents.

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To receive *News Gallery Week*, visit tcoe.org/GetTheGallery, or contact Jennifer Fisher at jenniferf@tcoe.org or (559) 733-6172.
