

Leadership Support Services welcomes new staff to further support Tulare County school districts

In preparation for the new school year, the staff of Leadership Support Services (LSS) has been focusing its energy on reviewing all district Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) updates which were due to the Tulare County Office of Education on July 1. With 43 plans to assess, the summer months have been filled with reviewing and planning for various upcoming trainings in areas of continuous improvement, LCAP template changes, and state assessments. “We recognize the tremendous amount of work and planning district and school staff have put into these documents to ensure the needs of all students will be met for the coming year,” said Martin Frolli, administrator for LSS. “We look forward to another year of working together to continuously improve student learning.”

LSS exists to help Tulare County leaders strategically plan how best to support all students in obtaining equitable outcomes. The architecture of California’s funding and accountability structure has undergone tremendous change since the introduction of the Local Control Funding Formula in 2013. LSS partners with Tulare County district leaders to successfully navigate the world of state and federal requirements as they push their schools forward in a cycle of continuous improvement.



To better serve the needs of Tulare County districts and schools, LSS welcomes two new administrators. Julia Reese joins the staff from Fresno Unified School District where she served as a manager within the College and Career Readiness department. John Davis joins the team, having served as principal at Oak Grove School in Visalia Unified School District.

One central function of LSS is to help Tulare County education leaders at all levels connect to other leaders in order to foster collaboration and share resources. To do that, LSS and Charlene Stringham, assistant superintendent of District Support Services, helped develop a new brochure entitled “Tulare County Office of Education Networks”. The brochure, which will be available through a link on the Tulare County Office of Education homepage in September, highlights nearly 30 network offerings for district leaders, including those for instruction, special education, business services, human resources, and teacher recruitment and development.

“Leadership Support Services has done an incredible job of knitting together the supports and developing the trainings to help Tulare County school districts meet their local goals within the state priorities,” said Tulare County Superintendent of Schools Tim Hire. “The staff is amazing in their ability to think strategically about the unique challenges our districts face and to support them in developing an improvement mindset where every student is succeeding.”

Photo above:

~ Julia Reese and John Davis join the Leadership Support Services department to aid Tulare County districts in meeting state and federal requirements for continual improvement.

Troxell-CDI to offer STEM training on September 4



Troxell-CDI Technologies, a national leader in classroom technologies and products, is holding a STEM Experience workshop on September 4 at Educational Resource Services' Library & Multimedia Center. The event – offered in two sessions for teachers who want to better integrate STEM into their classrooms – includes collaboration, support, and hands-on practice to help them tackle the subject in simple steps. Attendees will learn best practices for getting started with the makerspace movement, network with industry experts, and access easy-to-use lessons that take the guesswork out of teaching engineering, coding, robotics, and computer sciences.

To register for either the 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. session or the 3:00 - 6:00 p.m. session, visit bit.ly/2ZUxNOI.

Photo above:

~ Troxell-CDI has partnered with Educational Resource Services to offer two STEM integration trainings on September 4.

Early Childhood Education sets sail with new goals to guide their voyage



Last week, 450 employees of the Early Childhood Education Program (ECEP) came together at the Wyndham Visalia for the program's annual convocation. Staff embarked on a cruise-themed adventure launched by a moving keynote address from Tulare County Superintendent of Schools Tim Hire. Speaking on the importance of their work in early childhood education, Mr. Hire said, “Your work is tremendously significant. You create the foundation for lifelong learning and make children feel that school is a positive and safe place to be.”



Following Mr. Hire's address, the cruise format took staff from island to island to learn about new goals set for the program by the goals committee. Goal-setting, which is done every five years, centered on cultivating quality staff, creating lifelong learners, promoting families as lifelong educators, and strengthening program operations.



At the convocation, Assistant Superintendent of Student Services Julie Berk announced that Dr. Alex Elliott has become ECEP's administrator and that Eric Sonnenfeld was chosen as assistant administrator. ECEP serves 5,650 Tulare County children through various center and home-base programs. For more information about the program's services, visit tcoe.org/ece.

Photos above:

- ~ Early Childhood Education staff came together for the program's annual convocation which featured a cruise theme.*
- ~ Tulare County Superintendent of Schools Tim Hire kicked off the convocation with a moving presentation on the importance of the staff's work in setting a foundation for student learning.*
- ~ Eric Sonnenfeld is pictured leading a quiz activity with the audience. Mr. Sonnenfeld is Early*

Childhood Education's new assistant administrator, coming to the program from Merced County Office of Education.

High school students and parents invited to attend 38th Annual Tulare County College Night September 10



Representatives from nearly 70 universities and colleges will be on hand at the 38th Annual Tulare County College Night to answer questions about entrance requirements, available degrees, and tuition expenses at their institutions. College Night will be held Tuesday, September 10, in the Heritage Complex at the International Agri-Center in Tulare. The event, which will open to students and their families at 5:30 p.m., is designed to provide information on preparing for and applying to colleges. In addition to the college representatives, students and parents can visit four informational presentations (beginning at 6:30 and 7:30 p.m.) on topics that include financial aid, SAT/ACT test preparation, and registration information for the University of California and California State University systems. Additionally, Spanish-speaking representatives will be available to provide information to parents on financial aid. More information is available at tcoe.org/collegenight.

Photo above:

~ More than 70 colleges and universities will be on-hand at College Night, which will be held in the Heritage Complex at the International Agri-Center in Tulare.

Coming Up!

- **August 28**
Anti-Bullying Youth Symposium

9:00am-3:00pm, Visalia Convention Center

[More information.](#)

- **August 30**
Circle J Family Astronomy Night
7:30-9:30pm, Circle J-Norris Ranch, Springville
[More information.](#)
- **September 5**
Step Up Youth Challenge Advisor Training
4:00-7:00pm, TCOE Conference Center
[More information.](#)
- **September 10**
Tulare County College Night
5:30-8:00pm, International Agri-Center, Tulare
[More information.](#)

View more events at tcoe.org/CalendarofEvents.

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