

## Registration opens for free Virtual Learning Conference



Registration opened this week for TCOE’s first Virtual Learning Conference. Scheduled for August 4, the conference will feature over 30 one-hour virtual sessions for parents, administrators, teachers, student and family advocates, academic coaches, and school psychologists.

The conference sessions address virtual learning across a wide variety of curricular topics, including language arts, math, science, history-social science, art, and career technical education. Additionally, the conference features sessions on digital resources, attendance, social-emotional well-being, cultivating parent partnerships, supporting foster and homeless youth, supporting students with special needs, and preparing for graduation.

“This conference is extremely timely as districts make tough decisions about how and when they’ll bring students back to campus,” said Tim Hire, Tulare County Superintendent of Schools. “The topics covered help educators prepare for a variety of instructional scenarios based on the changing pandemic conditions in Tulare County.”

To register for the free Virtual Learning Conference, visit [eventsquid.com/event/10491](https://eventsquid.com/event/10491).

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## See awarded \$1.3 million in grants to improve youth workforce readiness



Beginning this month, out-of-school youth ages 18-24 in Porterville, Lindsay, Strathmore, Plainview, Ducor, Richgrove, Poplar, Springville, Terra Bella, and Woodville will be able to access services to prepare them to succeed in today's workforce. These services are available through a new one-year grant of nearly \$1 million awarded to Tulare County Office of Education's Services for Education and Employment (SEE) team by the Tulare County Workforce Investment Board. Students accepted into the programs will receive career and education counseling, work readiness preparation, leadership training, mentoring, job search assistance, scholarship information, and opportunities for paid work experience or vocational training in specialized fields.

The out-of-school youth grant was one of two received from the Workforce Investment Board. An additional \$370,000 was awarded to serve in-school youth with disabilities that have an IEP or 504 plan (ages 16-21), youth who are justice-involved (ages 16-24), and youth at Porterville and Lindsay high schools in career pathways.

Out-of-school and in-school youth are encouraged to contact Linda Patino at [lpatino@tcoe.org](mailto:lpatino@tcoe.org) or (559) 733-6730, extension 4321 to determine if they qualify. Youth should leave a detailed message with their name and phone number. "Due to COVID-19 restrictions, we are currently providing virtual services," said Ms. Patino. "Program participants will need access to the internet and a reliable phone to receive virtual services until face-to-face coaching and mentoring can resume."

Students who live outside the cities listed above are encouraged to visit the Tulare County Workforce Investment Board website at [www.tularewib.org/for-youth](http://www.tularewib.org/for-youth) to learn more about youth services available in their community.

*Photo above:*

*~ SEE's Youth at Work program provides workforce readiness services to in-school and out-of-school youth. During the COVID-19 pandemic, SEE staff meet with program participants virtually.*

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### **Alicia Martinez selected as scholarship winner by Region 9 Head Start Association**



Last month, Alicia Martinez, a teacher at Early Childhood Education's Maple Child Development Center in Tulare, was surprised to learn that she will receive a scholarship for her studies at Fresno Pacific University. Ms. Martinez applied for the scholarship provided annually by the Region 9 Head Start Association (R9HSA). This year, the association selected 20 Head Start and Early Head Start educators from California, Nevada, Arizona, and Hawaii to receive scholarships.

Ms. Martinez began working for Early Childhood Education (ECE) in September 2018 at the London Child Development Center before transferring to the Maple Center. "I am attending Fresno Pacific University to complete my BA in Early Childhood Education," she said. "My goal as a mother of two children is to improve myself and the standard of living for our family through higher education. My career goal is to grow as a professional in the ECE field and be able to provide children and their families within our community the support and guidance they need to achieve their goals."

Funds for the R9HSA scholarship come from a number of corporations and investment firms that believe that education is the key to advancing society. The association congratulated the winners, saying, “Your aspirations to complete your degree not only benefit you, but also the children and families you are committed to daily. Together, we can be the change that we seek for a better world.”

*Photo above:*

*~ Pictured with students from the London Child Development Center, Alicia Martinez is the recipient of a scholarship from Region 9 Head Start Association – a scholarship she will use to continue pursuing her bachelor’s degree in Early Childhood Education.*

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## Distance Learning Resources

- [Arts All Around Us](#)
- [TCOE Learning at Home](#)

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## Coming Up!

- Many upcoming student events have been cancelled or postponed. Check the current list of all student events (cancelled, postponed, and tentatively scheduled) on the [Student Events](#) webpage.

View more events at [tcoe.org/CalendarofEvents](https://tcoe.org/CalendarofEvents).

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

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