

Tulare County
Office of Education

Tim A. Hire, County Superintendent of Schools

news
galleryweek

March 8, 2023

Free, statewide learning improvement conference set for Saturday



Central Valley educators are invited to the "Students First: Learning Forward Together" conference on Saturday, March 11. The free, virtual conference features keynote speaker Dr. Linda Darling-Hammond, president of the California Board of Education and Stanford University education professor emeritus. The conference also features noted educators Mirko Chardin, Dr. Doug Fisher, and Dr. Jeff Zwiens.

Attendees will gain strategies they can use to accelerate student learning in math, literacy, and language development – strategies that integrate Universal Design for Learning (UDL), culturally sustaining pedagogy (CSP), and social-emotional learning (SEL) practices within the Multi-Tiered System of Support framework. Registration is available at <https://na.eventscloud.com/ccla2023summit>.

The half-day conference is a project of the California Collaborative for Learning Acceleration (CCLA), a program of the Santa Clara County Office of Education (SCCOE). A grant from the California Collaborative for Educational Excellence (CCEE) was awarded to SCCOE to administer a professional learning model for educators that can support learning acceleration, particularly in mathematics, literacy, and language development. The Tulare County Office of Education is a partner in the grant along with eight other county offices of education and educational institutions.

Through Educational Resource Services (ERS), the Tulare County Office of Education supports CCLA as a regional hub in Region VII (Fresno, Kings, Madera, Mariposa, Merced, and Tulare counties) and Region VIII (Kern, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, and Ventura counties). The curriculum specialist team of Timothy Budz, Ryann Darington, McKenzi Hurick, and Joseph Lamb are working to create online courses for teachers in literacy and math, and supporting schools with trainings and coaching in classrooms. The team will also be offering a “Trainer of Trainers” course for staff within the Region VII and VIII county offices of education.

Gala for Porterville Art Show to be held tomorrow

A gala for the Museum Masterpiece: Youth Art Show will be held **Thursday, March 9** to showcase 175 pieces of student artwork from Porterville area small schools.

The opening gala for the student artists will be held from 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. at the Porterville Historical Museum, located at 257 North D Street in Porterville.



The show debuted last Saturday and will continue through the end of March, which is Arts Education Month. The artwork is in the Main Exhibit Hall of the museum and open Saturdays 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. and Sundays noon until 3:00 p.m.

Seven districts participated in the TK-8 art show, including, Alta Vista, Hot Springs, Hope, Pleasant View, Rockford, Saucelito, and Terra Bella. Both Hot Springs and Saucelito had 100% student participation in the art show.

Museum Masterpieces is a new partnership between the Tulare County Office of Education and the Porterville Historical Museum. The collaboration is part of the QUAIL Project, TCOE's federally funded arts program. One of the main goals of QUAIL is the development of new arts-related community partnerships and events.

For more information, contact Kate Stover at kate.stover@tcoe.org.



Photos above:

~ Cardinal Hand Print by kindergartner Paisley Boren of Hot Springs School (top) and Splatter Marks by Saucelito School eighth grader Elizabeth Robertson (bottom) are part of the Museum Masterpiece: Youth Art Show at the Porterville Historical Museum.

Tulare student-athletes recognized for their good character

In partnership with the Kiwanis Club of Greater Tulare, TCOE's CHARACTER COUNTS! Program recognized this winter's Pursuing Victory with Honor (PVWH) student-athletes at a breakfast on Tuesday.



Kevin Covert, Kiwanis member and Tulare Joint Union High School District administrator, shared that club decided about 10 years ago to create the recognition program for student athletes. "We chose to recognize student athletes not for making touchdowns or scoring goals, but for their sportsmanship. Sometimes character is not recognized, but it is deeply needed," he said.

Tulare student-athletes, nominated by their coaches, are recognized during the fall, winter, and spring seasons each year for their sportsmanship. The awards they receive include a certificate, a PVWH pin, a PVWH shirt, and a lawn sign that read "An Athlete of Character Lives Here."

Below is a list of the winter Pursuing Victory with Honor award winners.

Emmah Burnes, Mission Oak High School girls soccer

Coach Michael Ridenour commended Emmah Burnes for her helpful nature. Her coach for three seasons, Ridenour said that Burnes is always the first to pick someone up. “She is a ‘teammate first’ player who is quick to praise others and to offer support to those who are struggling,” he said.

Jonas Barboza, Mission Oak High School boys soccer

Assistant Coach Lee Myers said that he has known Jonas Barboza since he was a baby. He has watched Barbosa along his journey to maturity and said that he is a joy to be around. “Jonas is one of our best defensive players and we have played him in almost every position,” he said. “He is a quick to encourage his teammates and even organized prayer time prior to each match.”

Gabby Espindola, Tulare Union High School girls soccer

Covert read a statement provided by Coach Tony Fernandes. “Gabby is a leader on and off the field. She is so responsible to the team and to others.” Frank Mello, Tulare Union boys soccer coach, added, “She absorbs anything and everything her coach is saying. She is a model of respect – even to her opponents – and a pillar for our program.”

Heriberto Estrada, Tulare Union High School boys soccer

Frank Mello said that he has watched Eddie Estrada for many years as he has been involved in club soccer. Now as his coach for two years, he said that he has to remind Estrada not to help all the time. “He tends to carry the entire burden on his shoulders. And yet, I have never heard him speak ill of anyone. Eddie does what’s right.” Estrada plans to continue his studies at College of the Sequoias.

Olivia Machado, Tulare Western High School girls basketball

Athletic Director Mike Powell said that Olivia Machado, a four-sport athlete, puts the team above herself. “She is quick to put her arm around a teammate and lead the girl to where she needs to be. Olivia represents every pillar of character and we could find something to say about her for each one.” He added, “A coach can’t be in all places at once, so Olivia fills in where needed. We need people like her to return to the community to serve.”

Parker Princewill, Tulare Western High School boys basketball

Coach Keith Rickard said that he has coached Parker Princewill on the varsity team for three years. “He is the perfect teammate. While he doesn’t say much, but ‘yes, sir’ and ‘no, sir’, he is always respectful. He also cheers on his teammates and always does what he’s supposed to do.”

Sportsmanship scholarship offered to student-athletes

The Tulare County CHARACTER COUNTS! Program is proud to announce that applications are now being accepted for the annual Provident-Salierno Pursuing Victory with Honor Senior Scholarships. The deadline to apply is **April 14, 2023**.



The scholarships are available for up to four graduating seniors who plan to attend a college or university in the fall of 2023, possess a 3.0 cumulative high school GPA, and exhibit exceptional sportsmanship, school and community service, and leadership.

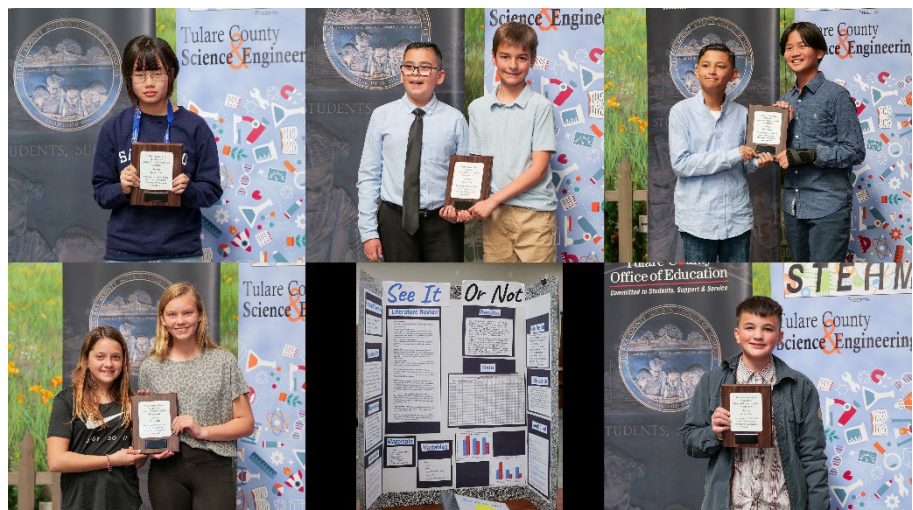
Pursuing Victory with Honor is the character education program developed by the creators of CHARACTER COUNTS! as a tool for coaches to instill good sportsmanship in their players. The Provident-Salierno Family Foundation generously supports the annual scholarship for seniors who demonstrate exemplary character on and off the field.

Tulare County seniors are invited to submit their scholarship applications – which will include an essay and two letters of recommendation – by **April 14**. To apply for the PVWH scholarship, complete the scholarship application at tcoe.org/PVWHScholarship.

For additional information, contact CHARACTER COUNTS! facilitator Gene Mendes at (559) 737-6349.

Top project selected to compete in California State Science Fair

During the eighth Annual STEAM Expo, held Saturday, students presented their science fair projects to judges. The projects, created by elementary and middle school students, explored



issues in Earth and Space Sciences, Physical Science, Life Sciences, and Behavioral and Social Sciences.

Toward the end of the day, those who participated in the Tulare County Science & Engineering Fair gathered in the lobby to receive awards and learn which projects were selected to advance to the California State Science Fair, being held virtually April 11.

The top six projects selected to represent Tulare County at the state science fair were:

"Water At Its Finest"

Jayden Solmantil and Andrew Toledo
Westfield Elementary School, Porterville

"See It or Not"

Ryland Lang
Three Rivers Union School

"FIRE Management"

Mason Peterson
Westfield Elementary School, Porterville

"Making 'Wheel' Energy"

Nathan Freed and Leonardo Gonzalez
Westfield Elementary School, Porterville

"The Lichtenberg Effect"

Lucy Colesberry and Lillie Shepard
Springville Union School

"Is the 5-Second Rule True?"

Carley Chea
St. Anne's School, Porterville

For more information on competing in future Science & Engineering Fairs, visit www.tcoe.org/STEAMExpo/Fair. A complete list of this year's winners, click [here](#). For People's Choice award winners, click [here](#).

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To receive the News Gallery Week, sign up [here](#), or contact Jennifer Fisher at jenniferf@tcoe.org or (559) 733-6172.