

Tulare County
Office of Education

Tim A. Hire, County Superintendent of Schools

news
galleryweek

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Community Schools team creates supports for districts developing community schools



In anticipation of the California Department of Education's (CDE) opening of the grant application window for Cohort 4 of the California Community Schools Partnership Program (CCSPP), TCOE's Community Schools team is offering a variety of technical supports this fall. The CDE has indicated that it intends to open the application window in October.

To support Tulare County school districts applying for planning or implementation grants, the Community Schools team is offering a Community of Transformative Practice (COTP) series that begins tomorrow, September 26. In-person meetings will be held every other month from 1:30 until 4:30 p.m. at the Doe Avenue Complex. The

COTP also provides technical assistance to districts that have already received a grant in Cohorts 1-3.

In addition, TCOE's Community Schools team is holding regular Zoom office hours every other month beginning October 15. On October 17, the team will hold a training entitled *Community Schools Essentials*. The training will provide fundamental skills and knowledge around the Community Schools Framework. School leaders seeking to explore the foundational aspects of community schools are encouraged to attend.

The Community Schools movement was developed in response to the detrimental effects the COVID-19 pandemic had on students and their families. The CDE provides grants to help school districts create programs that serve pre-kindergarten through high school students using a “whole-child” approach. Community schools are designed to focus not only on academics, but also on providing health and social services, encouraging youth development, and promoting community engagement. Currently in Tulare County, there are four local education agencies (LEAs) that hold planning grants and 20 LEAs (representing 89 schools) that hold implementation grants.

For information on the COTP meetings, the CCSPP office hours, the *Community Schools Essentials* training, and more resources, visit tcoe.org/CCSPP.

East Yosemite League volleyball, girls basketball adopt PVWH Pin Tradition for 2024-25 sports season



East Yosemite League (EYL) volleyball opened their league play this week with the implementation of the Pursuing Victory with Honor (PVWH) Pin Tradition. The pin tradition recognizes student-athletes from each team who best exemplify the goals of

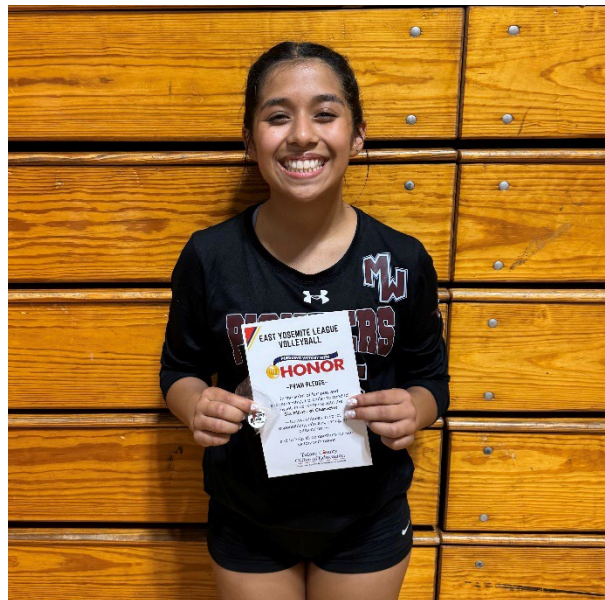
Pursuing Victory with Honor. They are selected by the game's officials and awarded with a PVWH lapel pin and written verification of their sportsmanlike conduct during the game.

The pin tradition will also be a part of the EYL girls' basketball season. Jessica Cervantes, El Diamante High School's head coach for junior varsity volleyball and varsity girls basketball, said that adopting the pin tradition shows the "phenomenal leadership" of coaches in the EYL and that their expectations of great sportsmanship and character extends to their student-athletes and coaches across their programs.

"I also think that our coaches feel like PVWH is important, so having the opportunity to recognize players was an easy choice for our league," Cervantes said. "It is not every day, anymore, that people are recognized for the good things they do, whether it be in the classroom, on the court, in the community. So, I see this as our league taking the opportunity to thank our girls for being part of the good in our community."

Mt. Whitney High School's volleyball team and Burton School District middle schools are continued supporters and participants of the PVWH Pin Tradition.

Pursuing Victory with Honor came to Tulare County in 2001 when a community conference was convened at the Holiday Inn Convention Center in Visalia. Coaches, teachers, administrators, and athletes from all over the Central Valley were in attendance. They were treated to feature presentations by CHARACTER COUNTS! president and founder Michael Josephson, four-time Olympic gold medal winner John Naber, and many others. It has been said that sport is something with little purpose and great meaning. From that conference came an unwavering desire and commitment to give as much meaning to sport as possible.



Pursuing Victory with Honor aims to promote sportsmanship and foster good character by teaching, enforcing, advocating, and modeling ethical principles. For more information on the pin tradition or how to bring it to your team, school, or league, contact Kelley Petty at kelleyp@tcoe.org.

Photos above:

~ Monache High School hosted El Diamante High School in an East Yosemite League game on Tuesday. Pictured left to right, Rachel Crawford (EDHS), Kendall Price (MHS), Emilee German (MHS), Bianca Rodriguez (EDHS), Tatiana Quinones (MHS), and Madison Mackenzie (EDHS) were PVWH Pin Tradition honorees.

~ Mt. Whitney High School's Jaydin Lopez was also a PVWH Pin Tradition honoree following her varsity game on Tuesday.

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