

Tulare County Office of Education

Jim Vidak, County Superintendent of Schools

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For Immediate Release

Contact: Robert Herman
Public Information Officer
559/733-6606
cell: 559/901-3445

Tulare County Office of Education Announces:
Fifth Annual *Expanding Your Horizons* Conference
College of the Sequoias – Saturday, May 7, 2005

For the fifth consecutive year, the Tulare County Office of Education and College of the Sequoias will host “Expanding Your Horizons” (EYH), a student event designed to encourage young women in grades four through eight to explore careers in the fields of mathematics, technology, science and engineering. The conference showcases math and science-related fields in innovative and interesting ways and will be held Saturday, May 7, at College of the Sequoias.

This year, Dr. Candice Skrapec, Associate Professor with the Department of Criminology, California State University, Fresno, will deliver the morning keynote address to more than 350 conference attendees. Dr. Skrapec has taught Criminal Psychology, Criminology and Investigative Profiling at CSU Fresno since 1994. In addition, she serves as a consultant for the Special Prosecutor’s Office for the State of Chihuahua in Mexico and as a consultant to attorneys who need her expertise on homicide or abuse cases.

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Following the morning address by Dr. Skrapec, 25 hands-on workshops and sessions will be taught by professional women from throughout the state. Young women can explore careers and opportunities in science and math fields by attending workshops such as, "Design Like an Architect," "Careers in Veterinary Medicine" and "Ag Science."

Attendance at the conference provides opportunities for young women to form personal contacts with women who are working in professions traditionally held by men, and to meet other students who are interested in math and science. "Expanding Your Horizons helps young women explore career options they may not have otherwise considered," says Tulare County Superintendent of Schools Jim Vidak. "It's important that they hear about careers based in math and science, and identify with the women who are leading the way in these fields. EYH presents outstanding opportunities for both," Vidak explains.

For additional information about the Tulare County Office of Education and its programs, contact Robert Herman, Tulare County Office of Education Public Information Officer, at 559/733-6606. For information about the Expanding Your Horizons conference, contact Lori Harding or Julie Joseph of Tulare County Office of Education's Educational Resource Services at 559/651-3641 or 559/651-3031.

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