

Tulare County Office of Education

Jim Vidak, County Superintendent of Schools

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For Immediate Release

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Tulare County Office of Education Announces:

Meeting of the Autism Support Group for Families and Professionals Features Renown Author Dr. Amy Laurent

Monday, February 13, 2006 · 5:00 p.m · TCOE Education Center, 2637 West Burrel Ave., Visalia

Visalia – The Autism Support Group for Families and Professionals, Tulare County Chapter, is hosting a discussion with renowned author and educator on the treatment of children with Autism Spectrum Disorders – Dr. Amy Laurent. The meeting will be held in the Education Center of the Tulare County Office of Education Monday, February 13, 2006, from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. The discussion is open to the public and free-of-charge.

This event will also provide an opportunity to discuss Dr. Laurent's contribution to *The SCERTS™ Model, A Comprehensive Educational Approach for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders*.

Amy Laurent, Ed.M., OTR/L, is a pediatric occupational therapist who holds a Master's in Special Education. Currently in private practice, she is a New England affiliate of Communication Crossroads and of Childhood Communication Services. Dr. Laurent specializes in the education of children with autism spectrum disorders (ASD) and related developmental disabilities. She is a co-author of the clinical manual for the SCERTS Model, a comprehensive educational approach for children with autism spectrum disorders and lectures internationally on topics related to therapeutic

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and educational intervention for children with ASD. She also serves as an instructor for the Communication Disorders Department at the University of Rhode Island and for the Communication Sciences and Disorders Department at Emerson College in Boston, MA.

The event is co-sponsored by the Central Valley Regional Center and the Tulare County/District Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA). Spanish translation will be provided. For more information, contact Paul Harrington at (559) 334-7481.

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