

# Tulare County Office of Education

*Jim Vidak, County Superintendent of Schools*

September 30, 2009

## **For Immediate Release**

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Tulare County Office of Education Announces:

## **Annual Tulare County “College Offers Opportunities for Life” (COOL) Night events move to October**

**6:00 – 8:00 p.m. · Tuesday, October 6, 2009 · Visalia Convention Center Exhibit Hall**

**6:00 – 9:00 p.m. · Tuesday, October 20, 2009 · Granite Hills High School, 1701 E. Putnam Ave., Porterville**

*Visalia:* College Offers Opportunities for Life (COOL) Night is an event for middle school students and parents interested in learning more about high school, college and career options.

Organized by the Tulare County Office of Education in partnership with the College of the Sequoias and local school districts, the event has traditionally been held in the spring in Visalia and Porterville. In an effort to give parents and students access to the valuable information presented at COOL Night earlier in the school year, the event has been moved to October. COOL Night will be offered on October 6, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Visalia Convention Center, and October 20, from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. at Granite Hills High School.

Similar in format to the Tulare County Office of Education College Night (a high school student event), COOL Night is designed for middle-school students and their parents. The event is an ideal opportunity for attendees to explore topics of interest. The COOL Night format includes an “Opportunities Fair,” where young people can interact with adults representing numerous

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educational and professional fields. Additionally, students and parents can attend breakout sessions throughout the evening with topics ranging from college requirements and financial aid, to high school academics, athletics, student leadership and campus life.

“COOL Night is a great opportunity for students and parents to begin discussing high school, college and careers,” says Tulare County Superintendent of Schools Jim Vidak. “In addition to the representatives from local colleges and employers, students will also have the opportunity to meet representatives from the high schools they will attend and learn about their programs for athletics, music and other extracurricular activities.”

Students interested in learning more about COOL Night and which venue (Porterville or Visalia) will serve their school, visit [www.tcoe.org/COOLNight](http://www.tcoe.org/COOLNight). For information about the event contact Tom Byars, at (559) 651-0155. For more information about the Tulare County Office of Education and its programs, contact Robert Herman at (559) 733-6606, or visit [www.tcoe.org](http://www.tcoe.org).

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