

## **Tulare County Office of Education**

2637 W. Burrel Ave.

Visalia, CA 93291

(559) 733-6300

Web Site: <http://www.tcoe.org>

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1 Elementary School  
1 High School  
1 Special Education School  
1 Juvenile Court School  
1 County Community School  
2 Charter Schools  
Enrollment 2,494

## **Tulare County Office of Education**

*Jim Vidak, County Superintendent of Schools*

### **Profile**

The Tulare County Office of Education exists to serve, support, encourage, develop and consistently improve on hundreds of programs and services to benefit over 90,000 students in 46 school districts across Tulare County. While the services and programs offered by the Tulare County Office of Education are broad, the commitment to students, support and service remains constant throughout the organization.

Tulare County school districts range from single school districts, such as Hot Springs with 20 students, to the Visalia Unified School District with over 25,000 students. In California, only Kern and Los Angeles Counties serve more districts than Tulare County. Tulare County's school districts are dotted among acres of the nation's richest agricultural land, located in urban areas and nestled in the Sierras on the eastern side of the county. Of the County's districts, eighty-five percent are considered small districts with less than 2,500 students. Seventy percent of the districts have less than 1,000 students each.

The challenge of serving the needs of a culturally and geographically diverse population in large and small, urban and rural districts is great. To do so, the Office of Education is organized into four primary divisions: Business Services, Human Resources, Instructional Services and Special Services. Together these divisions have developed and implemented some of the finest programs and services in the state.

Under the creative and administrative direction of County Superintendent of Schools Jim Vidak, the Tulare County Office of Education provides staff development and training programs related to new curriculum and instructional procedures; supports new teachers through the Beginning Teacher Support and Assessment (BTSA) and Intern programs; provides a full array of services to support curriculum and instruction, including library, media, and technology services; provides programs of instruction to students with special needs, pregnant minors, high school drop-outs, and students assigned to court/community schools; provides programs to transition students from school to work; and provides a myriad of student programs and activities such as Tulare County Spelling Bee, College Night, Academic Decathlon, Math Superbowl, and Poetry and Prose, which allow students to use their skills, knowledge and abilities to create projects, problem solve and achieve State content standards.