

news galleryweek

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Math Super Bowl returns as an in-person event for middle school students



More than 450 seventh- and eighth-grade students from 30 schools participated in the 49th annual Math Super Bowl on March 22 at the Visalia Convention Center. The students were from Tulare County schools and competed in three events – working independently (Power Bowl), in teams with their classmates (Team Bowl), and with students from other schools (Pro Bowl).

In the Pro Bowl portion of the competition, participants were divided into teams of four or five students from different schools. This year, problems for the Pro Bowl were centered around buying the right car – either a Corolla, Corolla Hybrid, or Tesla – for the various people who drive a different number of miles each year.

One question was:

The Webb family wants to buy a new car and is thinking about the Tesla. They have asked for your help in deciding whether this would be a good deal for them.

Write a proposal to the Webb family about buying a Tesla. Explain the trade-offs between costs and efficiency compared to the Corolla and Corolla Hybrid. Make a case for when buying a Tesla would be better or worse in the family's situation. Support your proposal with clear reasoning and examples.

Below is a list of the team and individual winners:



Eighth Grade Team Bowl Top Teams - Tied

Ridgeview Middle School - Team 8A,
Visalia
Isabelle Wu
Junwoo Kim
Nathan Zetino

Sycamore Valley Academy - Team 8A,
Visalia
Axl Menard
Leslie Rivera
Owen Zuniga
Yong Lee
Zach Smith

Seventh Grade Team Bowl Top Team

Oak Grove Elementary, Visalia
Julianne Arakaki
Sarah Butt
Paula Caffarel
Emma Diaz
Kaden Duncan



Eighth Grade Pro Bowl Top Team

Lisa Angel - Palo Verde
Elementary, Tulare
Lysander Barboza - La Joya Middle
School, Visalia
Ruben Garrido - Burton Middle
School, Porterville
Vincent Marcovaticio - Sequoia
Union School, Lemon Cove
Yong Lee - Sycamore Valley
Academy, Visalia



Seventh Grade Pro Bowl Top Team

Brody Mascia - Ridgeview Middle
School, Visalia
Caleb Spink - Green Acres Middle
School, Visalia
Cora Trejo - Los Tules Middle
School, Tulare
Natalie Herrera - St. Anne's
School, Porterville



Seventh Grade Large School Top Student

Sophia Castillo - Cherry Avenue Middle School, Tulare

Seventh Grade Small School Top Student

Sarah Butt - Oak Grove Elementary School, Visalia

Eighth Grade Large School Top Student

Francisco Salazar - Green Acres Middle School, Visalia

Eighth Grade Small School Top Student

Yong Lee - Sycamore Valley Academy, Visalia

For a complete list of results, visit tcoe.org/MathSuperBowl.

Photos above:

~ During the Pro Bowl portion of the annual Math Super Bowl, students worked in teams from other schools to solve hypothetical problems related to car purchases.

~ Top scorers from the Team Bowl and Pro Bowls pose for photos at the 49th annual Math Super Bowl.

Migrant Education Program, Region VIII hosts annual speech and debate tournament



The Migrant Education Program, Region VIII hosted its fourth annual Regional Speech & Debate Tournament on Saturday, March 12 at the TCOE Administration Building. Historically, the regional tournament holds competitions in speech per grade level – in Spanish or English. There are also middle school and high school debate teams that compete.

Twenty-two students from Tulare and Kings counties attended the event, with 18 students participating in only the speech competition. Due to only one debate team attending, debate competitions were not held. In the past, the students who finished first in their category at the regional tournament advanced to the Migrant State Tournament. However, this year marked the third year that the State Speech & Debate Tournament will not be held.

Awards were presented in the following categories:

Eighth Grade English Speech

1st Place – Ulises Canela Garcia, Washington Intermediate School – Dinuba Unified School District

Ninth Grade English Speech

1st Place – Juan Rosiles Garcia,
Farmersville High School –
Farmersville Unified School District
2nd Place – Yulissa Salado, Tulare
Western High School – Tulare Joint
Union High School District
3rd Place – Edwin Castillo, Dinuba
High School – Dinuba Unified School
District



Eleventh Grade English Speech

1st Place – Denis Gonzalez Reyes,
Dinuba High School – Dinuba Unified
School District
2nd Place – Josue Manzo Gomez,
Corcoran High School – Corcoran
Unified School District
3rd Place – David Hermoso, Dinuba
High School – Dinuba Unified School
District



Twelfth Grade English Speech

1st Place – David Sanchez Jr., Tulare Western High School – Tulare Joint Union High
School District

Twelfth Grade Spanish Speech

1st Place – Adolfo Torres Flores,
Tulare Western High School – Tulare
Joint Union High School District
2nd Place – Brianna Osorio Salazar,
Dinuba High School – Dinuba Unified
School District
3rd Place – Fernanda Gaona Figueroa,
Dinuba High School – Dinuba Unified
School District



Photos above:

~ Dozens of students from Tulare and Kings counties participated in the fourth annual
Regional Speech & Debate Tournament

~ Ninth grade English Speech award winners (l-r): Juan Rosiles Garcia, first place;
Yulissa Salado, second place; Edwin Castillo, third place; and Anabel González, director
of the Migrant Education Program, Region VIII.

~ Eleventh grade English Speech award winners (l-r): Denis Gonzalez Reyes, first place; Josue Manzo Gomez, second place; David Hermoso, third place; and Anabel González, director of the Migrant Education Program, Region VIII.

~ Twelfth grade Spanish Speech award winners (l-r): Adolfo Torres Flores, first place; Brianna Osorio Salazar, second place; Fernanda Gaona Figueroa, third place; and Anabel González, director of the Migrant Education Program, Region VIII.

Tulare County teams selected to compete at the NorCal Science Olympiad



The annual Science Olympiad competition for middle and high school students looked a little different this year. Instead of teams coming together for a single-day competition, students were able to take tests online in advance of their “build” competitions, which were held Saturday, March 5 at the Tulare County Office of Education’s Administration Building.

With rain in the forecast, teams of middle and high school students moved indoors to launch rockets, planes, and catapults; test the strength of their wooden bridges and towers; race cars; play hand-made musical instruments; and perform other tests. At the conclusion of the competition, data from the “build” competitions and the previously-held online tests were sent to the NorCal Science Olympiad, where they were tabulated to determine the top teams advancing to the virtual state competition April 2-6.

The top five middle school teams (Division B) advancing to the state competition are Ridgeview Middle School (Visalia), Jefferson Academy (Hanford), Green Acres Middle School (Visalia), Sundale Union School (Tulare), and Divisadero Middle School (Visalia). The top five high school teams advancing to the state competition are Tulare Union High School, Orosi High School, Exeter Union High School, University Preparatory High School (Visalia), and Mission Oak High School (Tulare).

For a complete list of Science Olympiad Divisions B and C winners, visit tcoe.org/ScienceOlympiad.



The Science Olympiad Division A competition for elementary grade teams is scheduled for Saturday, April 2.

Photos above:

~ Students from Exeter Union High School prepare their plane for the Wright Stuff competition.

~ University Preparatory High School students add sand to the bucket beneath their bridge to test the amount of weight the structure could carry before collapsing.

Both the Exeter Union and University Preparatory High School teams qualified to compete in the state NorCal Science Olympiad.

Migrant Education holds annual Health & Education Conference

On March 10, the Migrant Education Program, Region VIII, hosted its annual Health & Education Conference for migratory families, out-of-school youth, and staff. A record number of attendees filled the Redwood Conference Center to learn tips on keeping themselves and their children mentally and physically well, ready to be successful at work and in school.

This year's keynote speaker was Dr. David Castro, a first-year emergency medicine resident at



Kaweah Health in Visalia. Dr. Castro shared his insightful and inspirational story from his early years in Columbia to arriving in the United States with a determination to become a doctor.

Estefany Torres, a community health representative from Family HealthCare Network (FHCN), shared a plethora of medical and support services available to families in Tulare and Kings counties. A key component of her presentation was a discussion of the importance of family nutrition. Torres shared resources from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's [MyPlate site](#), along with information on sugar and salt in processed food, and their links to type 2 diabetes, obesity, dental issues, and heart disease.



Torres also shared information on the importance of physical exercise. Family HealthCare Network offers free Bailoterapia cardio dance classes in select communities throughout Tulare County. Morning and evening classes are currently available in Farmersville, Porterville, and Visalia, with additional classes planned for Lindsay. To learn more about FHCN's Bailoterapia classes, contact Estefany Torres at (559) 967-2101.

Hilda Osorio, a school psychologist and intern counselor from Sunnyside Union School, discussed with parents the importance of having healthy conversations with their children and ensuring that they check in with them regularly. Parents were able to engage in a question-and-answer session with Osorio, discussing personal scenarios for which they needed guidance.

For more information on the Migrant Education's Health & Education Conference, contact Anabel González at anabelg@tcoe.org.

Photos above:

~ Anabel González, Migrant Education Program director, addresses the crowd at the annual Health & Education Conference held earlier this month.

~ Women from a Visalia Bailoterapia group performed folklórico dances for the conference crowd. Family HealthCare Network organizes free Bailoterapia classes, which feature aerobic dance sessions, in communities throughout the county.

Around the County

Local educators begin planning ways to implement state's new Expanding Learning Opportunity Program



Earlier this month, superintendent Heather Pilgrim of Oak Valley Union School District participated in a statewide conversation organized by the California Department of Education's Expanded Learning Division and the California Afterschool Network (CAN). Pilgrim was included on a virtual panel of seven educators to discuss the implementation of the state's new Expanded Learning Opportunities Program (ELO-P). CAN organized the Fireside Chat event, with Pilgrim providing her perspective as a Central Valley education leader.

The ELO-P is a new stream of funding amounting to \$1.75 billion for school districts across the state to implement enrichment-based learning programs before school, after school, and during summer/intercession periods. Enrichment programs are learning opportunities developed around needs and interests of students at each school site. Some schools may choose to incorporate career education or music, while others may develop STEM activities and community service opportunities. At Oak Valley, funding

may be used to support the school’s agricultural pathway, which includes a large school garden.

To keep in step with the state’s implementation timelines, districts are accessing live and virtual opportunities to understand how to develop their programs, connect with other administrators, and collaborate with existing expanded learning programs and community partners.

Pilgrim lent her insight to a statewide audience on how she has started navigating the implementation process for ELO-P, addressing its challenges and the new opportunities she plans to grow for students.



“Once I dug into reading the [ELO-P] plan, learning of the details and having conversations with others, I realized that the burden wasn’t all on me,” she said. “I started to change how I was looking at this plan to a community effort and felt the burden slowly come up off my shoulders.” Pilgrim reports that collaborating with her existing after-school program provider, ProYouth HEART, and staying connected with a group of peers have been essential at this stage in the process.



To watch the full ELO-P Fireside Chat featuring Heather Pilgrim, please visit: www.afterschoolnetwork.org/post/interview-oak-valley-uesd.

For more information about connecting with expanded learning program leaders in Tulare, Kings, and Madera counties, and for questions related to ELO-P, contact Virginia Sepeda, Region 7 System of Support for Expanded Learning Lead at virginias@tcoe.org or (559) 741-0812.

Photos above:

~ Superintendent Heather Pilgrim of Oak Valley Union School District participated in a statewide conversation organized by the California Department of Education's Expanded Learning Division and the California Afterschool Network (CAN).

~ Students in the after-school program at Oak Valley Union School enjoy tending to the school's garden. Thanks to additional funding from a new state grant entitled the Expanded Learning Opportunities Program, Oak Valley may increase after-school enrichment opportunities in its existing agriculture pathway program.

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To receive the News Gallery Week, sign up [here](#), or contact Jennifer Fisher at jenniferf@tcoe.org or (559) 733-6172.