

news galleryweek

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Educational Resource Services offers sessions on utilizing artificial intelligence to help educators



Suspicious, excited but overwhelmed, lost, ready to learn, nervous. These were some of the feelings toward artificial intelligence that educators shared at the start of the Educational Resource Services' (ERS) AI workshop.

Held last Friday, July 28, the "Artificial Intelligence: Unpacking Standards and Lesson Design with AI" session helped educators feel more comfortable with the technology. The workshop was led by Adam Juarez, an ERS educational technology consultant, and Joe Marquez, the director of Academic Innovation at CUE.org, a technology support organization for educators founded in the late 70s. The workshop was held at the ERS Makerspace, where educators learned how to unpack standards and design lessons using AI.

At the beginning of the workshop, Juarez and Marquez shared the benefits of using AI. These included quicker grading, improved productivity, more effective lessons, and improved communication with parents. They also stressed the importance of adapting to the changes AI will bring.

“AI isn’t going anywhere, so we need to learn how to use it,” Juarez said. Marquez added, “The world is changing; we can’t rely on ‘this is the way we’ve always done it.’”

The pair then introduced the attendees to entry-level tools such as Chat GPT, Google Bard, and Canva Magic Design. After some time experimenting with the programs, Juarez and Marquez helped attendees become “prompt engineers” by providing sample prompts that educators could give to AI programs. With these prompts, educators utilized AI to simplify complex standards and generate their own custom lesson plans.

Educators interested in learning more about using AI are encouraged to register for one of two upcoming “Artificial Intelligence: Unpacking Standards and Lesson Design” workshops, being hosted on August 17 and September 5 from 4:30 until 7:30 p.m. To register for the August session, visit <http://tulare.k12oms.org/147-237093>. To register for the September session, visit <http://tulare.k12oms.org/147-237099>.

Photo above:

~ Adam Juarez works with teachers who attended a training on the use of artificial intelligence in developing lesson plans. The training will be repeated again this month and once in September.

CHARACTER COUNTS! kicks off new school year with a series of trainings for teachers and coaches

This week, dozens of site leaders from the ProYouth Expanded Learning after school program attended trainings on the foundations of CHARACTER COUNTS! (CC!).

ProYouth CEO Marie Pinto, Ed.D. informed her staff that ProYouth was instrumental in bringing CHARACTER COUNTS! to Tulare County in the 1990s. “ProYouth has a long history with CHARACTER COUNTS! and we are excited that we can add the program’s strategies to our toolbox so that we are better able to serve our students, families and community,” Pinto said. “We know that our students come to us from many



different backgrounds, some having experienced trauma. CHARACTER COUNTS! is a great resource to help with their social-emotional development.”

The CHARACTER COUNTS! Program will continue its trainings this fall for all Tulare County educators. The annual fall two-day training will be held August 31 and September 7. This training will help participants learn more about CHARACTER COUNTS! and why character development matters for a positive school climate, academic success, and social-emotional growth.

Tulare County teachers and administrators are invited to the training to learn how CC! strategies help students build self-awareness, self-management and decision-making skills, social awareness, and relationship skills. Registration is available at <http://tulare.k12oms.org/1530-238819>.

Coaches, athletic directors, administrators, officials, and other youth leaders are invited to register for the Pursuing Victory with Honor (PVWH) sportsmanship workshop being offered September 6. This in-service will help participants develop the tools and strategies needed to coach the Six Pillars of Character in athletics and activities. Participants will also learn to turn values into behaviors, as well as develop implementation plans to Teach, Enforce, Advocate, and Model the Six Pillars of Character on their teams. To register for the training, scheduled for 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m., visit <https://tulare.k12oms.org/1530-238821>.

For questions about building your character education or sportsmanship programs, contact Kelley Petty, CHARACTER COUNTS! program coordinator, at kelleyp@tcoe.org.

Photo above:

~ ProYouth program and site leaders met for CHARACTER COUNTS! training this week. Additional CHARACTER COUNTS! training is available to Tulare County educators later this month.

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