



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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018-049: Outdoor Education Raffle

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**Raffle Raises Money for Outdoor Education**

*Ticket sales bring in \$133,000 to pay for Science Camp and other programs*

Communities in San Joaquin County raised nearly \$133,000 to take students on an educational adventure. Funds raised will pay for hundreds of students to participate in outdoor-education programs, like the San Joaquin County Office of Education (SJCOE) Outdoor Education program, a four-night excursion to the coastal redwoods known to generations of county students as “Science Camp.”

All San Joaquin County schools were invited to participate in the raffle coordinated by the San Joaquin County Office of Education Educational Foundation (SJCOEEF). All proceeds go directly to the school that sold the tickets for their Outdoor Education trip because of generous donations: Valley Oak Dental sponsored the printing of 30,000 raffle tickets and the SJCOEEF donated \$5,000 in prize money.

San Joaquin County Superintendent of Schools James Mousalimas drew the three winning tickets:

- First Place (\$3,500): Nancy Lee. (Ticket sold by Walter Woodward Elementary, Manteca Unified School District.)
- Second Place (\$1,000): Charles Keen. (Ticket sold by Rio Calaveras Elementary School, Stockton Unified School District.)
- Third Place (\$500): Rick T. Torres. (Ticket sold by Weston Elementary School, Ripon Unified School District.)

This year, 36 schools participated in the Outdoor Education raffle, selling 26,520 tickets. The SJCOEEF has stepped up efforts to raise more money during the raffle in recent years. The total has risen from \$40,000 in 2014 to \$82,000 in 2015. The raffle raised \$122,000 in 2016 and \$121,000 last year. This year's total is a record-breaking \$132,600.

Since 1957, more than 500,000 elementary students have participated in the SJCOE Outdoor Education program, informally known as Science Camp. More than 4,000 fifth- and sixth-graders, and nearly 600 high school cabin leaders attend Outdoor Education each year, spending five days and four nights exploring and learning in nature. For more information, visit <http://www.sjcoe.org/outdoored/>.



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**Participating Schools:**

Aspire Langston Hughes Academy, August Knodt Elementary, Banta Elementary, Cleveland Elementary, Colony Oak Elementary, Earle E. Williams Middle, Elmwood Elementary, Golden West Elementary, Great Valley Elementary, Grunsky Elementary, John Marshall Elementary, John McCandless STEM Charter, Joseph Widmer Jr. Elementary, Lammersville Elementary, Lincoln Elementary, Madison Elementary, Monte Vista Middle, Mossdale Elementary, Park View Elementary, Primary Years Academy, Pulliam Elementary, Rio Calaveras Elementary, Ripon Elementary, River Islands Technology Academy, Roosevelt Elementary, San Joaquin Elementary, Sebastian Questa Elementary, Sequoia Elementary, Shasta Elementary, Stockton Public Safety Academy, Taylor Leadership Academy, Tom Hawkins Elementary, Venture Academy Family of Schools, Walter Woodward Elementary, Weston Elementary, and Wicklund Elementary.

***About the San Joaquin County Office of Education:***

*San Joaquin County Office of Education (SJCQE) provides educational leadership, resources, and services to support schools throughout the county. With its highly regarded programs, innovative staff, and community partnerships, SJCQE ensures that every student in San Joaquin County has the opportunity of a quality education. For more information, visit [www.sjcoe.org](http://www.sjcoe.org).*