



RAISE TO \$1M

A FOUNDATION FOR THE FUTURE

Fresno County Science Fair	Leadership Development
Academic Decathlon	Mock Trial
Athletics	Summer Arts Academy
STEM for Girls Conference	Fresno Area College Night
History Day	MathCounts
Career Skills Challenge	Young Authors' Faire
Career Tech Expo	Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Contests
FCSS Kids Day	Science Olympiad
Fresno County Spell-Off	Picture the Valley



THE MISSION OF RAISE TO \$1M

Is to help grow the current Endowment for Excellence to \$1 million, safeguarding educational programs that ensure Fresno County students reach their full potential. Together, we will build a foundation for excellence—and create a lasting legacy that will support educational programs and empower student success far into the future.

THE FOUNDATION
@ FCOE

1111 Van Ness, Third Floor | Fresno, CA 93721
Phone: 559.497.3770

DONATE TODAY TO BUILD TOMORROW

Legacy Champion \$25,000

Future Builder \$10,000

Foundation Partner \$5,000

Catalyst Investor \$2,500

Visionary Advocate \$1,000

Friends of Education up to \$999

STUDENTS IMPACTED ANNUALLY COUNTYWIDE

12,500+

AREAS OF FOCUS

Academics

Arts

Athletics

Career Technical Education

Leadership Development

STEM and more!

FCSS ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES: 25+

These opportunities contribute to:

- Better Learning Outcomes
- Increased Self-Esteem and Confidence
- Exploration of Interests and Talents
- Enhanced Social-Emotional Wellness
- Building Friendships and Teamwork Skills
- Enhanced Core Competencies
- Exposure to Potential Career Paths
- Improved College and Career Preparation and so much more!

Serving Fresno County's 31 School Districts

Alvina Elementary
Big Creek Elementary
Burrell Union Elementary
Caruthers Unified
Central Unified
Clay Elementary
Clovis Unified
Coalinga-Huron Unified
Firebaugh-Las Deltas Unified
Fowler Unified
Fresno Unified
Golden Plains Unified
Kerman Unified
Kings Canyon Unified
Kingsburg Elementary Charter
Kingsburg Jt. Union High
Laton Unified
Mendota Unified
Orange Center Elementary
Pacific Union Elementary
Parlier Unified
Pine Ridge Elementary
Raisin City Elementary
Riverdale Joint Unified
Sanger Unified
Selma Unified
Sierra Unified
Washington Colony
Washington Unified
West Park Elementary
Westside Elementary
FCSS and Charter Schools



Here are just some of the many events that impact the students of Fresno County



CAREER TECH EXPO



MOCK TRIAL



ACADEMIC DECATHLON

Highest Team Score Overall
1st Place Division 1

mark Academy



SUMMER ARTS ACADEMY



YOUTH AUTHORS' FAIRE



HISTORY DAY



SCIENCE OLYMPIAD

**DONATE TODAY
TO BUILD
TOMORROW**



<https://fcoefoundation.org/raise-to-1million>

About the Foundation @ FCOE

The Foundation @ FCOE is an independent 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and the fundraising arm of the Office of the Fresno County Superintendent of Schools (FCSS).

The Foundation exists to call attention to the educational needs in Fresno County and to solicit tax-free gifts from private sources. All gifts are used to fund programs, activities and improvements beyond the scope of the school tax dollars to improve the quality of education for more than 206,000 students in Fresno County.

Mission

The mission of The Foundation @ FCOE is to ensure students reach their full potential by supporting exemplary educational programs and services through a shared community responsibility.

Belief

Guided by the belief that education is preparation for life, The Foundation @ FCOE pledges to promote excellence, access and innovation in education for all students.

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Debbie Jacobsen, President
NeFesha Ruth Yisra'el, Treasurer
Tracy Kashian, Director-At-Large

Al Galvez, Vice President
Courtney Shapiro, Secretary
Anna Brooks, Immediate Past-President

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Sarah Olmos, Program Assistant



Fresno County
Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Michele Cantwell-Copher, Superintendent

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ACADEMIC ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR FRESNO COUNTY STUDENTS

The Endowment for Excellence is a critical funding source that will help sustain and expand the impactful programs listed below. Through ongoing support, the endowment ensures these initiatives continue to benefit students across Fresno County by enhancing learning experiences, promoting innovation, and creating opportunities that support academic growth and student success for years to come.

Academic Decathlon

This competition endeavors to provide an enriching educational experience that combines the relevant study of cultural and critical topics with strong reasoning and interpersonal skills. Teams from area high schools compete in 10 events, including seven objective tests, the speech and interview competition and a written essay. Winners of the local competition can move onto the state and national Academic Decathlon.

Access to Higher Education-A2HE

A2HE convenings provide hands-on career exploration and college registration assistance for junior high and high school students in foster care. Students are empowered with community resources and participate in motivational leadership and team-building activities. Most importantly, they connect with adults from multiple agencies who can provide support and guidance during their educational journey.

Career Skills Challenge

Features 40 hands-on, career-focused competitions in fields like medical terminology, welding, crime scene investigation, and sports medicine. Nearly 1,500 students from over 30 high schools in Fresno, Madera, and Mariposa counties compete for medals and the Grand Champion School Trophy.

Career Tech Expo

This annual expo welcomes students and families to explore a wide range of career pathways available throughout the Central Valley, including healthcare, finance, construction, agriculture, public safety, hospitality, and more. Industry professionals share their experiences and provide insight into future job opportunities, helping students plan their career goals. Hands-on demonstrations and interactive workshops give students real-world exposure to various fields and trades.

CIF Central Section Boys and Girls Basketball Finals

This is one of the most exciting high school basketball events in the area. Each year, the Office of the Fresno County Superintendent of Schools works collaboratively with the California Interscholastic Federation and Commissioner Ryan Tos as the lead sponsor to host the finals that span six divisions.

FCSS Kids Day

Kids Day is a joyful and inclusive event created for students with moderate to severe disabilities. More than 1,500 students, along with their teachers and support staff, enjoy a day filled with music, games, dancing, emergency vehicles, and hands-on activities. With the support of dedicated community volunteers, the event offers a safe and welcoming space where students can explore, engage, and simply have fun.

Fresno Area College Night

An opportunity for students and their parents/guardians to speak with representatives from more than 100 colleges, including California State University and University of California campuses, private universities and colleges, community colleges, accredited vocational colleges, and college clubs and organizations. Workshops on college admissions, financial aid, and other topics are also available.

Fresno County Summer Arts Academy

A two-week program that provides opportunities for high school students to develop their skills in areas such as acting, concert band, film production, jazz band, rock band, and stagecraft. Students are provided with more than just tools for the stage, they also gain skills that will help them address difficult issues facing today's youth.

History Day

Fresno County History Day is a unique opportunity for students in grades 4-12 to research and present personally meaningful topics relating to an annual theme, and to examine history in a fun and challenging way. Student winners in each category for posters, exhibits, historical papers, web sites, documentaries, and performances, advance to the State Competition and potentially qualify for National History Day.

Leadership Development

Our leadership development programs empower students to become confident, engaged leaders. Through the Health Youth Corps, students gain experience in public health and community wellness. The annual Student Leadership Conference brings youth together for skill-building, networking, and inspiration. With a strong emphasis on civic leadership, students learn to advocate, lead with purpose, and create meaningful change in their communities.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Contests

Students in grades K-12 are invited to reflect on Dr. King's legacy through art, speech, and writing inspired by the annual theme selected by the City of Fresno MLK Unity Committee. Schools may submit up to eight entries for the Art Contest and up to three finalists per category for the Speech Contest. The Essay Contest encourages thoughtful written responses to the theme. Winning entries are showcased at a special reception featuring displayed artwork and essays, along with live presentations of the winning speeches.



THE FOUNDATION
@
FCOE

MATHCOUNTS Competition

This national math competition for students in grades 6–8 features four rounds that test accuracy, problem-solving, and collaboration. Students compete individually in the Sprint and Target Rounds, then work together in the Team Round. Top scorers face off in the fast-paced Countdown Round, with the winning team advancing to represent the region at the state competition.

Mock Trial

Teams participate in a simulation of an original criminal court case with high school students playing courtroom roles. Students present the case in the courtrooms of the Fresno County Courthouse before presiding with judges and attorneys who evaluate each team's performance. The competition is designed to demystify the workings of the legal institutions for young people and to foster an interest in career opportunities. Winners of the competition can move onto the state and national competition levels.

Pentathlon Adventure & Iron Chef

The Pentathlon Adventure challenges teams through five exciting events—Survivor Adventure, Power-Pull, Climbing Wall, Shuttle Run, and Plyo-Mid. Iron Chef lets groups of four students showcase creativity and teamwork in a timed cooking challenge. Students learn the significance of developing a healthy and active lifestyle.

Picture the Valley Film Festival

The Film Festival lets students share their unique perspectives on life in the Central Valley through individual or group films created during the school year. Aligned with California's Common Core ELA standards, students develop narrative writing skills, produce clear and organized work, and conduct focused research as part of this engaging competition.

Science Fair

All county students in grades 6-12 are eligible to enter the Fresno County Science Fair. Working on a Science Fair project introduces students to the scientific method and critical-thinking skills they will need to succeed in the 21st century. Students from public, private and parochial schools strive to take home ribbons, medals, trophies and more than 100 special awards. Winners from the regional competition advance to state and international competitions.

Science Olympiad

Science Olympiad is a national program that promotes excellence in K-12 science education through team-based competitions. Middle and high school teams of up to 15 students compete in hands-on events across biology, chemistry, physics, earth science, and technology. The program encourages broad participation and teamwork, with top teams advancing to state and national levels.

Scout Island Adventure Challenge

A one-of-a-kind adventure race for high school students. Each team must navigate over a three-mile course using clues and a handheld GPS unit. Throughout the course, competitors have to complete 10-12 different challenges which test their mental, physical, teamwork and leadership abilities. The goals are for the challenge teams to put their learning into action and to provide a fun and exciting outdoor experience that encourages them to be more active and physically fit.

Spell Off

The Spell Off is open to school finalists from district-wide spelling bees, with each district allowed two participants per division — elementary (grades 4-6) and junior high (grades 7-8). The elementary competition is oral, while the junior high competition is written. The top two winners in each division advance to the California State Spelling Championship and also compete for the single spot representing Fresno County at the National Scripps Spelling Bee in Washington, D.C.

STEM for Girls Conference

Girls in elementary and junior high experience a motivating keynote speaker and exciting break-out sessions led by local women in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) business and education fields. They discover how interesting and fun math and science can be and learn about career opportunities for women in STEM fields. Students form personal contacts with women working in occupations traditionally held by men and meet other young women who share a common interest in STEM.

Young Authors' Faire

The Young Authors' Faire celebrates literacy by showcasing original books from K-6 students and poetry or narratives from middle schoolers. Each school may submit up to 10 entries. A panel selects Exemplary Selections, Honorable Mentions, and Special Recognitions to highlight outstanding student work.



RAISE TO \$1M PLEDGE FORM

Yes! I will support the Raise to \$1M Community Campaign!

Business/Individual Name _____
Print name as it is to appear on promotional materials or check to remain anonymous. ☐

Contact First Name _____ Last Name _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

☐ Please accept my contribution of: ☐ \$1,000 ☐ \$2,500 ☐ \$5,000 ☐ \$10,000 ☐ \$25,000 ☐ Other _____

☐ I would like to pledge a multi-year contribution totaling ☐ \$1,000 ☐ \$2,500 ☐ \$5,000 ☐ \$10,000 ☐ \$25,000
Apply my multi-year contribution in the following years for the amounts indicated below:

\$ _____ 2025-26 (current year)

\$ _____ 2027-28

\$ _____ 2026-27

\$ _____ 2028-29

For your convenience, the Foundation office will send an annual invoice starting with year two of your multi-year investment. Annual invoices are sent the same month the first-year investment was received.

Payment Information (please select one)

☐ My check is enclosed for \$ _____ Payable To: The Foundation @ FCOE

☐ I pledge a contribution of \$ _____ Please invoice me.

☐ Charge to ___ Visa ___ Master Card ___ American Express ___ Discover

CC # _____ Exp. Date _____

CSC # (last 3 digits on the reverse side) _____



Name as it appears on card _____

Billing address if different than that listed above _____

Signature _____

MAIL TO: The Foundation @ FCOE | 1111 Van Ness, Third Floor | Fresno, California 93721

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