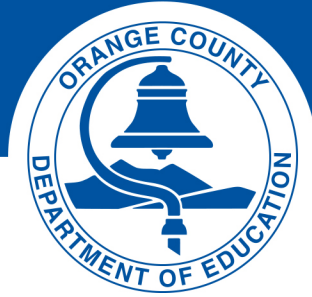


NEWS RELEASE

Al Mijares, Ph.D.
County Superintendent of Schools
200 Kalmus Drive, Costa Mesa, CA 92626



Contact: Ian Hanigan
714-966-4008
communications@ocde.us

Orange County Friday Night Live secures grant to combat underage drinking Funding will help youth leaders engage their peers, family members and communities

COSTA MESA, Calif., Jan. 26, 2016 – For the second straight year, the Orange County Department of Education has been awarded a \$15,000 grant to support Friday Night Live (FNL) youth leaders in the implementation of campaigns designed to combat underage drinking in their communities.

The grant is provided through the California Friday Night Live Partnership (CFNLP) with funding from the California Office of Traffic Safety through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. It will give local youth additional opportunities to lead projects that will actively engage their peers, family members and community members with the goal of reducing underage drinking – and preventing the problems that are often the result.

The FNL chapters selected to participate include those from Bolsa Grande and Santiago high schools in the Garden Grove Unified School District; Magnolia High School in the Anaheim Union High School District; and the Santiago de Compostela Youth Ministry in Lake Forest. Youth leaders will pursue multifaceted prevention efforts that will include outreach to parents, alcohol retailers and students enrolled at local middle and high schools.

About Friday Night Live

Friday Night Live (FNL) is a high school youth development program that is part of the Orange County Department of Education's Orange County Friday Night Live Partnership. Students who participate in FNL focus on alcohol and drug prevention with the goal of promoting lasting change in their schools and communities. The program provides leadership opportunities that support young people as they develop meaningful skills in the areas of communication, collaboration and problem-solving. OCFNLP is funded by the County of Orange Health Care Agency's Alcohol and Drug Education and Prevention Team (ADEPT).

For more information, please contact Orange County Department of Education Program Specialist Elke Petras at 714-966-4458 or epetras@ocde.us.

###