February 8, 2011

TO: District Superintendents
   Instructional Leaders Network
   All School Principals
   RCOE Coordinator/Principals

FROM: Kenneth M. Young
   Riverside County
   Superintendent of Schools

SUBJECT: Great California ShakeOut 2011

On Thursday, October 20, 2011, at 10:20 a.m., millions of Californians will again participate in this year’s earthquake drill.

The Riverside County Office of Education is pleased to announce its partnership with the Earthquake County Alliance and participation in the statewide drill “The Great California ShakeOut.” What we do now, before a big earthquake, will determine what our lives will be like afterwards.

Last year, over 7.9 million Californians statewide practiced “Drop, Cover, and Hold On.” Riverside County has achieved 100% participation from our public school districts the past three years. I encourage all schools, private and public to build on the successes of the previous years and encourage your businesses, organizations and parents to participate in 2011.

RCOE encourages all schools, private and public, to develop and promote their own ShakeOut activities and events: such as, providing emergency preparedness information to parents, posting links on their websites, and presenting classroom lessons. You can find these resources at http://www.shakeout.org/schools/

The first step is to register your school or district on the Great California ShakeOut website at http://www.shakeout.org/schools/register/ and pledge your participation. For past participants, you can renew your registration for 2011 at http://www.shakeout.org/login/. Just enter your email address and access code. It’s that simple.

For more information about ShakeOut, please contact the Riverside County ShakeOut School Chairman, Michael D’Amico, Emergency Management Coordinator, Safe Schools Unit, at (951) 826-6250 or by e-mail at mdamico@rcoe.us or emergencyprep@rcoe.us

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