

# EL DORADO UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

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## **Ponderosa High School Wins 2016 Academic Decathlon**

On Saturday, February 6, Ponderosa High School took first place as a team during this year's Academic Decathlon, held at Oak Ridge High School. The Academic Decathlon provides academic competitions that promote learning and academic excellence through teamwork. The program includes students of all academic abilities and achievement levels. Students are tested in the areas of art, economics, essay, interview, literature, math, music, science and speech, and it's capped off with a Super Quiz — the highlight of the decathlon, where the public is invited to attend. Four school teams competed this year — Ponderosa High School, Union Mine High School, El Dorado High School and Oak Ridge High School.

Top Decathlete — Miranda Dodd, Ponderosa High School

Top Alternate — James Yoon, Oak Ridge High School

High Scoring Speech - Elizabeth Strutz, Ponderosa High School

"Every year this program showcases a solid foundation of commitment, consistency, dedication and teamwork. I would like to thank the students, educators, staff and community leaders who make this a cornerstone event for El Dorado County." - County Superintendent of Schools Ed Manansala, Ed.D.

Funding for the El Dorado County Academic Decathlon comes from community sponsors and the El Dorado Union High School District. EDCOE funds a part-time administrative assistant and provides technical support.

This county program has been successful for over 30 years due to the efforts of over 150 volunteers serving in various capacities: speech and interview judges, testing proctors, computer programmer, registrar or master of ceremonies. Contributions of time or any dollar amount are gratefully accepted.