



Fresno County Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Michele Cantwell-Copher, Superintendent

May 26, 2026

Dear District Superintendent,

This year's Caruthers District Fair runs from September 30 – October 3 and The Big Fresno Fair runs from October 7-18. Many of your students participate in the Fair through FFA, 4-H, Career Pathways and other programs.

Every year my office receives many calls regarding release time for students, the legality of claiming ADA and the opportunity for students to make up missed schoolwork. Please make sure your principals and teachers are aware that these programs and all that they entail are legitimate educational experiences for the students and meet state requirements for claiming ADA. Instructors should allow students an opportunity to make up classroom work. However, local school board policies can be more stringent than State Education Code.

Please don't hesitate to contact our office if you have any questions regarding this information.

Sincerely,

Dr. Michele Cantwell-Copher
Fresno County Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Diane Lira
Deputy Superintendent, Instructional Division