FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Merced County Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA) is seeking out all individuals with exceptional needs (IWENS) between birth and 21 years of age who reside in a district listed below:

- Atwater Elementary School District (209) 357-6100
- Ballico-Cressey Elementary School District (209) 632-5371
- Delhi Unified School District (209) 656-2000
- Dos Palos Unified School District (209) 392-0200
- El Nido Elementary School District (209) 385-8420
- Gustine Unified School District (209) 854-3784
- Hilmar Unified School District (209) 632-8847
- Le Grand Union Elementary School District (209) 389-4515
- Le Grand Union High School District (209) 389-9403
- Livingston Union Elementary (209) 394-5400
- Los Banos Unified School District (209) 826-3801
- McSwain Elementary (209) 354-2700
- Merced City Elementary School District (209) 385-6600
- Merced River Union Elementary District (209) 354-5679
- Merced Union High School District (209) 385-6400
- Plainsburg Union Elementary School District (209) 389-4707
- Planada Elementary School District (209) 382-0756
- Snelling-Merced Falls Union Elementary School District (209) 563-6414
- Weaver Union School District (209) 723-7606
- Winton Elementary School District (209) 357-6175

Parents who believe their child may have a physical, academic, emotional, mental, speech or language disability should contact their local school district's Special Education Department.

Your local Special Education Office can assist you regarding referral procedures, parent/child rights under federal and state laws, identification procedures for students with exceptional needs, and the continuum of services that may be available.

Eligibility and services vary and are based on infant, pre-school, or school age levels. All age groups have search and serve requirements. For school age children enrolled in public education, a pupil shall be referred for special education programs and services only after the resources of the regular education program have been considered and utilized.

For children who reside in one of the listed districts but is enrolled in a private school, the parent should contact the private school as well as the district's Special Education Department to inquire about identification and/or services for students enrolled in a private school.