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## Press Release

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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### The Palmdale Aerospace Academy announces Community Forum

The Palmdale Aerospace Academy (TPAA), the next school of choice in the Palmdale School District area, created via a partnership between the City of Palmdale, the AERO Institute, and The Palmdale School District has announced that it will host its first community forum on the 19<sup>th</sup> of January, 2012. The event, slated to begin at 5:30 p.m. on location at The AERO Institute, will be the first of many for parents, guardians and interested community members to hear about and contribute to the academy.

Items to be addressed at the community forum include courses which will be offered at the academy, the philosophy, mission, and vision of the academy and a tentative timeline of events for parents and possible students to consider. Academy leadership is also hoping to hear from community members about what elements they would like to see their children have access to in this school. "We all have an idea about what we want this school to look like," quoted Matthew Winheim, the district liaison for STEM education to the academy. "The point of the event is not in looking at this from our own interests, rather what will be in the best interests of our students. Parents and community members need to have opportunities to let us know what is important to them. And we welcome their input."

The community is invited to attend the event, which will start with a brief presentation and then be followed by a question answering session. Lastly, community members present will be asked to contribute their ideas, suggestions, and unanswered questions to TPAA leadership.

"The school is truly a reflection of the community and community participation is highly valued," stated Dr. Les Uhazy, Antelope Valley College Dean of Mathematics and Science.

Community members who are unable to attend are encouraged to contribute their ideas and suggestions in the on-line surveys available at [www.palmdalesd.org/TPAA](http://www.palmdalesd.org/TPAA) .

According to the vision of the academy, "...core academic concepts will come to life through application relevant to aerospace." Challenging projects and hands on learning experiences, inspired by the spirit of exploration which has fueled the triumphs of the local aerospace industry, will prepare students for success in college and careers in mathematics, science, engineering and technology. The Palmdale Aerospace Academy is slated to open in August of 2012.

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