



City of  
**Los Banos**  
*At the Crossroads of California*

**LOS BANOS POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**PRESS RELEASE**

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March 04, 2013

**Police and Local Schools Partner in Anonymous Tip Line Program**

On February 20, 2013 the Pacheco High School and the Los Banos Police Department launched an anonymous tip line program at the Pacheco High School. While two other Los Banos schools are in the process of developing similar tip lines, the Pacheco High School is the first to use the system.

The system was developed using a free Google voice account and a telephone number was provided to students after they received a short training session from the School Resource Officer Dusty Norris. Students are able to call and leave a voicemail or send a text message reporting anything they feel needs attention. The voicemail is automatically translated into a text message and sent to a group of designated school officials.

“Traditionally, the Pacheco High School has a low discipline rate and approximately 72% of the students enrolled are in college-preparatory classes. We believe in our wonderful students and programs like this allow them to embrace their global responsibility to be good citizens and report information that ensures the safety and security of our school and community.”

*-Grace Taylor, Interim Principal*

Within the first week of the program being introduced, school officials have received several anonymous tips from students on campus. Based on the tips received, four students have been found in possession of small amounts of suspected Marijuana, several fights have been prevented and one student was found in possession of alcohol.

“We’ve found that the students typically are well informed of activity at their schools. We want to give all available eyes on campus the ability to report things they feel are wrong. Parents wishing to speak with school staff or report suspicious activity should contact the schools normal business line.”

*-Dusty Norris, School Resource Officer*

To leave an anonymous crime tip call **209-827-7070 Ext. 288**. If you have access to a computer and the internet you can also leave an anonymous tip at the Police Department's web page at [www.losbanos.org](http://www.losbanos.org). At the bottom of the "Contact" page simply click on the "report graffiti and other crime" link or visit the Merced Area Crime Stoppers by telephone at 1-855-725-2420, or at [www.mercedareacrimestoppers.org](http://www.mercedareacrimestoppers.org)

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