

AAE advances to county mock-trial finals

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APPLE VALLEY • Academy for Academic Excellence students advanced to the San Bernardino County mock-trial finals for the first time in school history and will face powerhouse Redlands High School on Saturday.

AAE beat Rialto High School in the semifinal round that took place Tuesday and Wednesday. The Apple Valley charter school and Redlands school qualified to the final round because they had the two highest cumulative points among six semifinalists.

High Desert schools haven't won a county championship since Apple Valley High School did it during the 1994-95 academic year. Redlands has appeared in the finals 15 out of the past 16 years and has won a record 10 county titles.

This is the first year the AAE mock-trial club advanced to the semifinals since it started four years ago.

Saturday's final begins at 9 a.m. at the Foothill Law and Justice Center at 8303 Haven Avenue in Rancho Cucamonga. There will be sessions in the morning and the afternoon with both schools playing the roles of defense and prosecution.

The public is invited to attend the competition, but there is limited seating. The winner of the county competition will advance to the state finals March 23 through 25 in Sacramento.

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