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Educational Partnership Brings Jobs Skills to Incarcerated Youth

SOLANO COUNTY, CA – The Solano County Probation Department's Juvenile Detention Facility (JDF) in collaboration with the Solano County Office of Education (SCOE) will host a grand opening of the new construction trades classroom. Probation Chief Chris Hansen and Solano County Superintendent of Schools Lisette Estrella-Henderson will host a ribbon cutting ceremony on March 2, 2022 at 11:00 a.m. at the JDF.

The construction trades classroom is a collaborative venture between the Solano County Probation Department and the Solano County Office of Education. The new classroom aims to reduce future recidivism through educational and vocational training opportunities that are applicable and marketable. Over the past several years, the JDF and SCOE have made significant strides to bring high quality education and real-world training opportunities for youth in custody. This construction trades classroom will continue that trajectory and provide youth with necessary training to equip them with skills that will enhance their employability in the community upon their release.

"This program places emphasis on hands-on learning, career path exploration, and job skill development for our young people. It is part of a system of supports to help incarcerated youth successfully transition out of custody with both academic and life skills that will enable them to grow and thrive as they move forward in a positive direction," commented Solano Superintendent of Schools Lisette Estrella-Henderson.

The new classroom features eight different workstations to include occupational safety, HVAC, plumbing, electrical, masonry, concrete, drywall, roof framing, and woodworking. Upon completion of each workstation, a student will receive credit towards high school graduation as well as an opportunity to receive the National Center for Construction Education & Research (NCCER) Safety Certification. The course is taught by Career Technical Education (CTE) teacher Terrell Parr and classroom specialist Sabrina True and will offer students hands-on training that includes guest speakers from various trades.

For more information, please contact Dean Farrah, Superintendent of JDF or Solano County Office of Education's Director of College and Career Readiness, Kelley Birch at <u>kbirch@solanocoe.net</u>.

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* Please see attached Media Advisory for press interested in attending event.