

## Lisette Estrella-Henderson, Superintendent of Schools

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## **NEWS RELEASE - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Organization:** Solano County Office of Education

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## **Equity Institute at Solano County Office of Education**

Fairfield - County Offices of Education and school districts in the state of California must provide a solid plan of action on how they will address the educational needs for every student. Specific goals, activities, and anticipated outcomes must be a transparent process for students, parents, and community members. Multiple measures of equity must be assured for every student. Solano County Office of Education (SCOE) is launching an Equity Institute in partnership with the Association of California School Administrators (ACSA) Diversity and Equal Access Division. The Equity Institute at SCOE will support educators in leading through a lens of equity and cultural proficiency.

This professional learning opportunity is designed to build cultural proficiency capacity that will help educators lead with equity. Cultural proficiency is a model for shifting the culture of an organization. It is a shift in mindset from viewing cultural differences as problematic to being open to developing the skills that aid in working effectively with other cultures. Attendees will be instructed on proactive strategies for addressing the diverse needs of the communities in which they serve.

The instructional component of the workshop will be led by Dr. Randall Lindsey, co-author of *Cultural Proficiency-A Manual for School Leaders*. In addition, Generation Ready, will provide deep instructional job-embedded expertise that supports improving instructional practice in the classroom. Generation Ready works with educators on creating learning environments that enhance and sustain cultural proficient school environments in which culturally sensitive conversations can take place without judgement. This organizational practice allows for schools to focus on closing the achieving gap, increase student engagement in the classroom, improve attendance and student behavior, and enhance student achievement.

This is an excellent opportunity for individuals seeking interactive and structured discourse on equity in a safe environment. Site and district teams are encouraged to attend to work towards building and sustaining equitable practices, which is a component of the Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) and Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

The Equity Institute at Solano County Office of Education dates are as follows:

February 24-25 March 31-April 1 May 5-6

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If you would like more information about this topic, please contact: Gethsemane Moss, Director of Educational Services, Solano COE at 707-399-4429 or GMoss@solanocoe.net