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## **NEWS RELEASE - For immediate release**

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## **Solano County Schools Offer Robust Career Technical Education Programs**

**SOLANO COUNTY, CA** – Solano County Office of Education (SCOE) is joining the Association for Career and Technical Education's February awareness campaign to highlight career technical education (CTE) opportunities available to Solano students. SCOE will be showcasing the robust CTE programs across Solano County to raise awareness of the role CTE has in ensuring students are ready for college and careers.

"Solano schools are offering a wide range of CTE pathways to students. Solano County Office of Education supports local CTE high school programs and facilitates the Work Ready! Certification program that provides workshops to help students build skills like creating effective resumes, preparing for interviews, social media responsibility, and teamwork. These are all important skills that students need to learn to obtain and keep good jobs," commented Superintendent of Schools Lisette Estrella-Henderson.

During CTE month, SCOE will highlight CTE programs and the accomplishments of local students and teachers. Across Solano County 12 high schools offer 19 different CTE programs with 52 pathways including: auto technology, agriculture mechanics, building trades, business, digital media, education, engineering, medical science, dance, culinary, floral design, animal care, public safety, kinesiology and sports therapy, video game design, video production, welding, aeronautics, and biotechnology.

Students in grades 10-12 participate in CTE courses of interest to explore a variety of careers. CTE courses are hands on, project based, and offer students the opportunity to prepare for possible careers after graduation. CTE courses provide core academic skills, employability skills, and technical skills in high-wage, high-skill, high-demand careers. CTE is associated with lower rates of dropout and higher rates of graduation, averaging 94% over the general average of 85%. Students in CTE courses can also earn industry certifications such as OSHA, ServSafe, and CPR first aid.

CTE courses satisfy college entrance A-G requirements and some even offer college credit while students are still enrolled in high school, allowing students a choice in how they further their education to best prepare for their career goals. Most importantly, CTE students gain employability skills that prepare them for success in local workplaces and careers outside of Solano County.

For more information about CTE in Solano County contact Assistant Director of College and Career Readiness Kelley Birch at [kbirch@solanocoe.net](mailto:kbirch@solanocoe.net) or visit [www.solanocoe.net/ccreadiness](http://www.solanocoe.net/ccreadiness).

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Solano County Office of Education (SCOE) provides leadership, support, and fiscal oversight for charter schools and Benicia, Dixon, Fairfield-Suisun, Travis, Vacaville, and Vallejo school districts which serve approximately 63,000 students. Solano County Superintendent of Schools, Lisette Estrella-Henderson is elected by voters of Solano County. The Superintendent is a state constitutional officer who serves as the chief executive officer of SCOE and as a liaison between local school districts and the state.