



Lisette Estrella-Henderson, Superintendent of Schools

5100 Business Center Drive, Fairfield, CA 94534-1658

707.399.4400 ★ www.solanocoe.net

NEWS – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Organization: Solano County Office of Education
Contact: Gethsemane Moss, Senior Director of Community Engagement
Telephone: 707-399-4429
E-Mail: GMoss@solanocoe.net

Solano County Quality Counts Child Care & Preschool Ratings

The Solano County Office of Education (SCOE), in collaboration with First 5 Solano and other community partners, is proud to announce the 2017-2018 quality ratings. Quality Counts, Solano’s Quality Rating and Improvement System—managed through the Quality Early Learning Consortium by SCOE, is funded by the California Department of Education, and the First 5 IMPACT (Improve and Maximize Programs so All Children Thrive) Grant.

Quality Rating and Improvement Systems are used throughout California and nationally to support providers in addressing needs and engaging in continuous improvement around the essential building blocks of high quality early care and education programs. This is done with: on-site coaching, technical assistance, professional development, specialized training, observations, program incentives, ongoing support, and other resources.

Solano Quality Counts also supports providers in informing parents of the characteristics to be mindful of when selecting an early learning environment for their young children. A list of child care programs participating in Quality Counts, along with program ratings, is available at <http://bit.ly/QualityCountsSolano>.

“The Solano County Office of Education is proud to collaborate with First 5 Solano and our many community partners. Working on behalf of our early learners is an important investment for their future,” says Solano County Superintendent of Schools Lisette Estrella-Henderson.

Sites that participate in a formal assessment and rating receive Block Grants ranging from \$3,500 to \$5,000. Ratings are based on environment, teacher-child interaction, developmental screening, health and safety. Rated sites utilize Block Grants to support continuous quality improvement in early care and education programs.

The Solano Quality Early Learning Consortium is currently accepting applications for participation in Quality Counts. All licensed and license-exempt providers in Solano County serving children ages 0-5 years—including family child care homes, private and state-funded centers, state preschool programs, Head Start/Early Head Start, and migrant child development programs—are eligible to apply. For an application or additional information, please contact Lisa Eckhoff of the Solano County Office of Education at: 707-399-4407, leckhoff@solanocoe.net, or visit the Solano Quality Counts website.

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