



NEWS RELEASE - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Partnership Brings Pre-Apprenticeship Program to Solano Students

Vacaville, CA- The Vacaville Unified School District & Ron DuPratt Ford are kicking off the first automotive pre-apprenticeship program in Solano County, Friday, October 8th. In partnership with the Solano County Office of Education, students will have the opportunity to receive an inside look at the opportunities that their participation in this expanded program may hold and receive support to apply.

Will C. Wood High School's Career Technical Education (CTE) Instructor, Chip Reeves, has enjoyed a long-standing partnership with Ron DuPratt Ford. This mutually beneficial relationship has provided students enrolled in Will C. Wood's automotive courses with ample resources, which include vehicle donations and premier access to Ford's automotive training modules.

"The habitual excellence demonstrated by Mr. Chip Reeves and the dedication to community service exemplified by Ron DuPratt Ford is directly responsible for expanding career pathways at Vacaville Unified. The program you see here today has a profoundly transformative impact on our student's lives, allowing them to make a seamless transition from school to the workforce-" states, Vacaville USD Superintendent, Jane Shamieh.

This year, the ever expanding program has grown to include opportunities for pre-apprenticeship in a variety of departments at Ron DuPratt Ford, to include the quick lane, parts, sales, and service. After completing both of Will C. Wood's automotive courses successfully, students will have the added benefit of earning college credit through Solano Community College and may choose to enroll in its automotive pathway to continue the Ford certification process.

"The new Automotive Pre-Apprenticeship Program takes project-based learning to the next level and allows education to transcend the classroom into the workplace. Not only does this program prepare students for diverse career opportunities, but it assists in filling critical areas of employment needed right here in Solano County," stated Superintendent of Schools Lisette Estrella-Henderson.



"We experience the difficulty of hiring people firsthand, especially within Solano County, for all different position levels. Standards for young adults entering the workforce are changing, and there are so many options they can do quickly that will allow them to start making a living sooner. Ron DuPratt Ford believes we truly offer that option. It is possible to work your way up the ladder, and we hope this program helps students understand that hard work will pay off, no matter where they start," said Ron DuPratt Ford Operations and Marketing Manager Julee Spitzer.

For more information about this and other programs that support students preparing for college and career, please visit the websites below.

VUSD:

<https://bit.ly/VUSDCTE>

SCOE:

www.solanocoe.net/ccreadiness.

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