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**NEWS RELEASE - For immediate release**

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## **Teams Bring Their “A” Game to the Bay Regional Academic Decathlon**

**Solano County, CA-** Solano County Office of Education hosts and coordinates the annual Bay Region Academic Decathlon event for students. “Water, A Most Essential Resource” is the theme of this year’s decathlon in which 250 students from 17 high schools across nine counties (Contra Costa, Lake, Mendocino, Napa, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Solano, Sonoma, and Yolo) have been challenged to bring their “A” game.

Decathletes completed testing, speeches and interviews this week. The competition will culminate on Saturday, February 5 with a live virtual Super Quiz, at 1:00-2:30 p.m., and an awards ceremony at 3:00-4:30 p.m. The link the live broadcast can be found at <https://www.solanocoe.net/academicdecathlon>.

“It is exciting to see such a broad and diverse representation of students participating from throughout the entire region,” said Superintendent of Schools Lisette Estrella-Henderson. “I am so pleased to see this competition continue to grow as these decathletes pave their way for life-long success.”

The Academic Decathlon is a competitive event modeled after the Olympics to stimulate academic achievement and honor “athletes of the mind”. The competition provides an enriching educational experience that combines relevant study of cultural and critical topics and fosters a deep respect for knowledge, cooperation, and self-esteem. The 17 school’s participating in this year’s competition include:

- American Canyon High School, Napa Valley Unified School District (USD)
- BASIS Independent Silicon Valley Charter, Santa Clara
- Buckingham Collegiate Charter Academy, Vacaville USD
- Campolindo High School, Acalanes USD
- Casa Grande High School, Petaluma City School District
- Davis Senior High School, Davis Joint USD
- Dixon High School, Dixon USD
- Evergreen Valley High School, East Side USD
- Freedom High School, Liberty USD
- Jesse Bethel High School and Vallejo High School, Vallejo City USD
- Menlo-Atherton High School, Sequoia USD
- River City High School, Washington USD
- Rodriguez High School, Fairfield-Suisun USD
- Upper Lake High School, Upper Lake Union High
- Vanden High School, Travis USD
- Willits High School, Willits USD

Teams advancing to the California Academic Decathlon, to be held virtually in March, will be announced during the awards ceremony. The California Champion will advance to the US Academic Decathlon set for April.

For more information about the Academic Decathlon visit [www.solanocoe.net/academicdecathlon](http://www.solanocoe.net/academicdecathlon) or contact Ken Scarberry, director of youth development, at [kscarberry@solanocoe.net](mailto:kscarberry@solanocoe.net).

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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.