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Connect2Careers Continuum Guide Designed to Connect Students to Careers

Solano County Superintendent of Schools Lisette Estrella-Henderson is proud to announce the unveiling of the Connect2Careers Continuum Guide. This brand-new tool is designed to connect students to careers, at a time when employers across various industries are struggling to find individuals who possess the knowledge and skills necessary for today's jobs. To address the challenge, Connect2Careers offers educators resources related to career exposure for all grade levels. The guide is divided into four sections, each targeting a different grade span with increasing depth on a career planning continuum from exposure, to awareness, to exploration, and preparation.

The Guide provides lesson grids and other resources for teachers in all grades with the clear intention to reach students who may not be enrolled in a Career Technical Education course. Connect2Careers is rich with live links to resources including planning tools, activities, and interactive descriptions of different occupations. Solano County Office of Education, in partnership with teachers throughout the county, created lessons for Kindergarten–4th grade and relied on the California Career Resource Network that provided career exploration and career education resources to teachers and parents for students in grades 5–12. Together, these resources provide educators with a standards-based tool for implementing and incorporating critical career and college readiness knowledge and skill development into their classroom instruction.

In her foreword to the guide, Superintendent Estrella-Henderson emphasized that the solution to career readiness "starts earlier than high school" and added that "critical to preparing young people for the jobs of today and tomorrow are the strong partnerships between educators, employers, and the community." A comprehensive community approach is an essential element of Connect2Careers. As a first step in implementing the curriculum, the Guide reminds stakeholders of their role in making career education successful. Career readiness is supported by school administrators, teachers, counseling staff, parents, and community members, including members of the business community. The Connect2Careers Guide can be found on the SCOE website at www.solanocoe.net.

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