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

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Organization: Solano County Office of Education

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## **SCOE Accepting Applications for GIRL Camps**

**Solano County, CA**- Solano County Office of Education (SCOE) is expanding in-person Girls in Robotics Leadership (GIRL) camps and will now be hosting free camps this summer in Benicia, Fairfield, Vacaville and Vallejo for middle and high school girls. Interest forms for the 2022 GIRL camps are due May 16<sup>th</sup> and are available on the SCOE website at <a href="https://www.solanocoe.net/girlcamp">www.solanocoe.net/girlcamp</a>.

In partnership with UC Davis Computing-Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (C-STEM), SCOE will host five-day camps providing opportunities for girls to learn leadership skills and explore STEM concepts in a fun and exciting environment using robotics-based curriculum. These innovative GIRL Camps introduce students to robotics, principles in engineering, computer programming, and Ch/C/C++ (programming code). They will interact with women employed in engineering and other technology-related fields. In addition to C-STEAM, girls will learn film production and the creative process involved in making short videos using Linkbots that they program to perform. Each camp will end with students showcasing their video projects and coding skills to an audience.

"Exposure to subjects like robotics and coding helps improve the representation of women in STEM related fields. We have worked hard to expand opportunities that our GIRL camps provide to participants and are excited to reach girls in more cities across Solano County this year," said Solano Superintendent of Schools Lisette Estrella-Henderson.

All camps will be held daily from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. There are three options for middle school students to select from: (1) June 6-10th at Solano Community College (SCC) in Vacaville; (2) June 13-17th at SCC in Fairfield; and (3) June 20-24th at SCC in Vallejo. The high school camp will be June 20-24, at Benicia Makerspace.

For more information about the GIRL Camps visit <a href="www.solanocoe.net/girlcamp">www.solanocoe.net/girlcamp</a> or contact SCOE's Director of Innovative Programs and Student Success Lilibeth Pinpin, PhD at <a href="mailto:lpinpin@solanocoe.net">lpinpin@solanocoe.net</a> or 707-399-4439.

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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.