



**Lisette Estrella-Henderson, Superintendent of Schools**  
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## **NEWS – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Date:** April 24, 2018  
**Organization:** Solano County Office of Education  
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### **Nominees for 2018-19 Solano County Educators of the Year Announced**

The Solano County Office of Education will honor 14 school employees nominated for the 2018-19 Solano County Educators of the Year Award. Honorees from the County Office and Benicia, Dixon, Fairfield-Suisun, Travis, Vacaville, and Vallejo Unified School Districts will be recognized during a celebration on Tuesday, May 1, 2018, from 5:15 PM – 7:00 PM at the Joseph A. Nelson Community Center, 611 Village Drive in Suisun City.

These outstanding Educators in various positions contribute to student achievement, educational innovation, and community involvement. “Solano County’s educators inspire and support our students to learn, grow, and thrive. Their hard work and dedication make a profound and lasting impact on the lives of our pupils and their families. I want to extend our deepest appreciation to all the nominees, for their admirable work in education,” says Solano County Superintendent of Schools Lisette Estrella-Henderson.

One certificated (teacher) and one classified staff member (school support) award recipient will be selected to represent Solano County in the California Department of Education Statewide Educators of the Year Competition.

#### **Solano County Educators of the Year Nominees**

Benicia Unified School District: **Melissa Harley**, Fifth Grade Teacher, Mary Farmar Elementary School; and **Heather Cullum**, Food Services Supervisor, Mary Farmar Elementary School

Dixon Unified School District: **Lisa Krebs**, English Teacher, Dixon High School; and **Felix Lopez**, Para Professional, Maine Prairie High School

Fairfield-Suisun Unified School District: **Michelle Rippee**, Kindergarten Teacher, Tolenas Elementary School; and **Amos Coleman**, Custodian, Cordelia Hills Elementary School



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Solano County Office of Education: **Angela Myers**, Teacher, Juvenile Detention Facility; and **Brenda Pignataro**, Vocational Specialist, Resource Development & Transitional Services

Travis Elementary School, Travis Unified School District: **Marilyn Lewis**, Science Teacher, Vanden High School; and **Anna Rodgers**, Health Care Specialist

Vacaville Unified School District: **Jacob Wright**, Physical Education Teacher, Vaca Pena Middle School; and **Robin Bright**, School Secretary, Ernest Kimme Charter Academy for Independent Living

Vallejo City Unified School District: **Ellen Baker-Valdez**, Third Grade Teacher, Highland Elementary School; and **Samantha Bradshaw**, Lead Trainer & Bus Driver, Operations - Transportation

All are invited to celebrate the many accomplishments and commitment of these devoted educators. To attend the event, please RSVP at <https://goo.gl/forms/fkcNsmEechg7Oy9u2>.

For more information, please contact Rebecca Floyd at (707) 646-7602 or [RFloyd@solanocoe.net](mailto:RFloyd@solanocoe.net).

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