



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

**Date:** April 25, 2018  
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### **Solano County Office of Education Workability I Collaborative Annual Employer Appreciation and Fashion Show**

The Solano County Office of Education WorkAbility I (WAI) program in partnership with Benicia, Dixon, Fairfield-Suisun, and Vallejo City Unified School Districts' Workability I programs, businesses, and employers will honor participating students at their Annual Fashion Show to be held at the Fairfield-Suisun Adult School; May 3, 2018, from 10:30AM-12:00PM. "We are fortunate in Solano County to have tremendous support from businesses and employers. Their participation in the WAI program affords students with disabilities the hands-on work experience they need to be able to achieve competitive integrated employment," says Solano County Superintendent of Schools Lisette Estrella-Henderson.

Over 50 Solano County businesses and employers, that have contributed to the success of more than 250 students with disabilities in the workplace, will be recognized. The WAI program offers students with an Individualized Education Plan (IEP), the opportunity to complete their secondary education while obtaining marketable job skills, and provides secondary students with the knowledge needed to seek and keep a job. The employability of students improves when they are provided occupational class training and on-the-job subsidized or unsubsidized work experience.

WAI is funded and administered by the California Department of Education (CDE) through interagency coordination with the Employment Development Department (EDD) and the State Department of Rehabilitation (DOR). The Workability I program provides comprehensive pre-employment skills training, employment placement, and follow-up for high school students in special education who are making the transition from school to work, independent living, and postsecondary education or training. The Program serves both middle school and high school students. The middle school project assists eighth grade students with transition to high school and linking school them to future careers. Program services are individualized according to student needs, abilities, and interests.

If you would like additional information on the Annual Solano County WAI Employer Appreciation Event or you would like to participate in the WAI program please contact Susan Labrecque at [SLabrecque@solanocoe.net](mailto:SLabrecque@solanocoe.net) or (707)399-4805.

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