



Lisette Estrella-Henderson, Superintendent of Schools
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NEWS RELEASE - For immediate release

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Organization: Solano County Office of Education

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Superintendent Estrella-Henderson Named Equity Award Honoree

FAIRFIELD, CA- Solano County Superintendent of Schools Lisette Estrella-Henderson has been named the 2021 Mosaic Award recipient by Touro University California (TUC) and will be honored at the upcoming Virtual Mosaic Celebration on May 13, 2021. The event serves as a recognition opportunity and fundraiser for the university's diversity scholarship fund. The Mosaic honoree is chosen from the community in recognition of long-standing work and service that promotes equality, diversity and inclusion.

"Each year during our annual Mosaic Celebration, Touro University California recognizes a community member whose work exemplifies our mission and values," said Dr. Sarah Sweitzer, Provost and Chief Academic Officer at Touro University California. "Lisette Estrella-Henderson's decades-long commitment of education, leadership, and inclusion to the students and faculty in Solano County match our motto perfectly, To Serve, To Lead, To Teach. We honor her for her distinguished career in service to others."

Lisette Estrella-Henderson grew up in Solano County after her father was stationed at Travis Air Force Base. She earned a Master's in Education degree from the California State University, Sacramento, with a focus on bilingual cross-cultural education. In addition to her California teaching credential, she holds her bilingual specialist, and administrative services credentials and is a certified leadership coach. She has worked in education in Solano County for 36 six years, with much of her focus on equity and diversity and advocating for equitable allocation of resources for our diverse student population.

Estrella-Henderson cited a collaborative effort amongst staff at Solano County Office of Education (SCOE) for their expansive work, programing and professional learning focused on placing equity at the center of educational planning.

"I'd like to thank Touro University for this recognition on behalf of the entire Solano County Office of Education team that is focused daily with an equity and inclusion mindset, on providing supports for each unique student, so they can learn, grow and thrive regardless of their first language, ethnicity, socio-economic status, gender, or unique learning needs. I am inspired by the steadfast commitment to positive change that Touro University embodies. Together we will make real change happen for our communities, now and for generations to come."

The County Superintendent also spoke to the importance of equity and inclusion following the COVID-19 pandemic saying, "Unfortunately, the opportunity and achievement gaps we have worked so tirelessly to identify and close for students got wider for many. As we move forward, we must be more committed than ever to creating new learning paradigms for all students with equity and social justice at the forefront of everything that we do."

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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



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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.