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Solano County Office of Education Pilots Virtual Girls in Robotics Leadership (GIRL) Camp

Fairfield, CA- The Solano County Office of Education (SCOE), in partnership with Vacaville Unified School District (VUSD) and UC Davis Computing-Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (C-STEM) will pilot a free virtual Girls in Robotics Leadership (GIRL) Camp to middle school girls June 8-12, 2020. This is in response to the COVID-19 stay-at-home order that paused the face-to-face GIRL Camps which were offered in previous years. Despite the current situation, SCOE and VUSD want the girls to be able to have the opportunity to learn leadership and STEM concepts through a fun and exciting robotics-based curriculum.

“The Solano County Office of Education is excited to partner with Vacaville Unified School District and UC Davis C-STEM to pilot a virtual GIRL Camp in Solano County. Education can continue while keeping the girls safe in a virtual setting. This is an excellent opportunity for our middle school girls to learn coding and robotics, through engaging hands-on activities remotely. We hope to inspire more girls to consider engineering and related fields as a possible career,” says Solano County Superintendent of Schools Lisette Estrella-Henderson. “We are also grateful for our partnerships with Valero, Genentech and Soroptimist International of Central Solano.”

During the five-day virtual Camp, participants will learn: teamwork, communication, and leadership skills. They will be introduced to robotics, principles in engineering, and computer programming with a user-friendly RoboBlockly and Ch/C/C++ (programming code), in a mock-up RoboPlay Challenge Competition. Participants will also learn film production and the creative process involved in making short videos with robotics. The Camp will culminate with student video presentations and celebration with parents and community members via zoom.

For more information about the GIRL and GIRL+ Camps, contact Director of Innovative Programs and Student Success Lilibeth Pinpin at lpinpin@solanocoe.net or 707-399-4439.

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Solano County Office of Education (SCOE) provides leadership, support, and fiscal oversight for Benicia, Dixon, Fairfield-Suisun, Travis, Vacaville, and Vallejo school districts which serve approximately 64,000 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.