



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

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SCOE Awarded Grant to Progress Early Education in Solano

Locals Invited to Orientation for Solano Early Education Teacher Development Program

Solano County, CA- Solano County Office of Education (SCOE) has been awarded an Early Education Teacher Development (EETD) competitive grant by the California Department of Education, in the amount of \$1,054,720. EETD funding will be used to increase the number of highly qualified California State Preschool Programs (CSPP) and transitional kindergarten (TK) teachers in Solano County. The grant will also help increase specific proficiencies for local early learning and childcare professionals.

SCOE has collaborated with local school districts, charters, and community-based organizations operating as CSPPs and TK programs, as well as colleges and universities, to develop a workforce development program that offers support for advancement, recruitment, higher education opportunities, funding assistance, and specialized training in Solano County.

“We are excited to receive funding that puts significant resources behind the collaborative and strategic work we have done with community partners in furthering high-quality early learning for children in Solano County,” said Solano Superintendent of Schools Lisette Estrella-Henderson.

SCOE is the lead agency for Quality Counts Solano, the Early Childhood Education Workforce Development Pathways program, and the Inclusive Early Education Expansion Program. Each of these programs focuses on quality early learning experiences for young children, with emphasis on professional learning for teachers. SCOE will leverage the EETD funding with these programs to implement a countywide Early Education Teacher Development Pathways Program. This program will provide opportunities for education and career advancement across the continuum of early learning providers, including family childcare, center-based and school-based preschool, TK, and kindergarten teachers.

Under the Universal Pre-Kindergarten (UPK) legislation, eligibility for children to enroll in TK will gradually increase. By the school year 2025-26, children turning 4 by September 1st may attend TK on elementary school campuses.

Lisa Eckhoff, SCOE’s Senior Director of Early Learning added, “With the expansion of universal preschool and transitional kindergarten, and the need for 11,000 more early learning teachers projected throughout the state by 2025, the Solano Early Education Teacher Development Pathways Program creates opportunities to attract new professionals to Solano’s early learning workforce and provides support for existing teachers to explore education and career advancement pathways.”



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Current educators, college students, home-based and center-based preschool and childcare providers, and others interested in learning more about opportunities for educational and career advancement are encouraged to attend an informational meeting to learn more about the Solano Early Education Teacher Development Pathways Program. [Information and registration link.](#)

For more information about the Early Education Teacher Development Pathways program, please contact Lisa Eckhoff, Sr. Director of Early Learning, LEckhoff@SolanoCOE.net.

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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 60,000 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.