

Lisette Estrella-Henderson, Superintendent of Schools

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NEWS RELEASE - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Early Care and Education Providers Looking Forward to Professional Learning Conference

FAIRFIELD – Solano County Office of Education has partnered with several community agencies including First 5 Solano, Child Start, Inc., Solano Family and Children's Services, and others to sponsor the Quality Counts Early Childhood Education (ECE) Conference this Saturday, September 23, 2017, at the Solano Community College, 4000 Suisun Valley Road, Fairfield, beginning at 8:00 a.m. The theme for this year's conference is *Quality Counts in Solano Early Care and Education*. Early learning professionals from Solano and neighboring counties are registered to attend this exciting fun-filled day of learning and networking.

"The Solano County Office of Education is proud to bring together nearly 200 professionals to collaborate with each other and learn from experts in the field of early childhood education, for this professional learning event," stated Lisette Estrella-Henderson, Superintendent of Schools. "We know teacher effectiveness matters and is one of the most important school-related factors influencing student achievement. When our teachers participate in quality training, our children receive the benefits."

There will be topics of interest for all early learning professionals: preschool, kindergarten, and transitional kindergarten teachers, infant/toddler teachers, family child care providers, center-based directors, and supervisors, as well as anyone working with young children. ECE professionals will participate in three breakout sessions and choose from 24 hands-on interactive and informative sessions. Participants will enjoy engaging topics, including baby signs, STEAM-inspired (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics) activities, and self-care for teachers and child care providers.

An array of vendors and community agencies will be on hand to share products and resources, including representatives from Head Start, the Solano Child Care Resource and Referral Agency, Help Me Grow Solano, the Solano Coalition for Better Health, and several higher learning and training organizations.

In addition to a broad variety of topics and resources, participants will learn about Solano County's Quality Rating and Improvement System, known as Quality Counts, a statewide initiative led by the Solano County Office of Education and First 5 Solano to enhance the quality of early learning programs; provide evidence-based supports, including onsite coaching and professional development; strengthen communities; and improve overall outcomes for children and their families.

For more information on this topic, please contact:
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