



NEWS RELEASE - For immediate release

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Organization: Solano County Office of Education

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Golden Hills Community School Kicks Off Series of Interactive Cultural Lessons

Fairfield, CA- Golden Hills Community School recently kicked off a series of classroom presentations that connect students to the rich and complex historical contribution of diverse cultures in the United States of American. All presentations will include cultural and artistic connections to the historical fabric of our nation.

The first classroom guests were the Northern California Buffalo Soldiers, 10th Cavalry Regiment who helped commemorate Veterans Day by recognizing the invaluable contributions of the Buffalo Soldiers. The assembly of students, staff, veterans and community members aimed to educate and inspire students while acknowledging the complex historical context of the Buffalo Soldiers' service in the western frontier following the Civil War. Students learned about hardships that Black soldiers endured during their service, including racial discrimination within the military and the dangers of frontier life. At the same time, it's important to acknowledge that the westward expansion of the United States had devastating consequences for Indigenous people. In recognizing the dual narratives, students have an opportunity to experience empathy, understanding, and reconciliation as they reflect on the complexities of American history.

"We appreciate the partners who help us create opportunities to bring history lessons to life. Hands-on learning and active participation can make concepts like the complexities of American history more accessible for students," remarked Solano County Superintendent of Schools Lisette Estrella-Henderson.

Future assemblies at Golden Hills will host Village Rhythms featuring African drumming, music, singing, dancing and traditional dress presented in a historical /cultural context. The group conveys messages of respect, kindness, self-discipline, acceptance, tolerance, listening, anti-bullying and getting along with others in peace.

Oakland Originalz, a dance group that integrates Hip Hop, breaking and other dance into immersive, interactive, comedic and acrobatic leadership experiences for students, will also present in the new year.

Golden Hills Community School will continue these educational opportunities that foster a deeper understanding of history and promote inclusivity and a more comprehensive and compassionate comprehension of America's complex history.

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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 60,300 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.