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NEWS RELEASE - For immediate release

Date: June 24, 2024

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SCOE Recognizes Early Childhood Educators of the Year

Solano County, CA- Solano County Office of Education (SCOE), in collaboration with the Solano Child Care Planning Council and other community partners, hosted the second annual Solano Early Childhood Educator of the Year reception on the evening of Friday, June 21, 2024. This event honored early childhood educators who demonstrate excellence in the care and education of Solano County's young children. In total, 29 early educators were nominated by their peers, families, and colleagues throughout Solano County. Six educators were awarded educators of the year in the categories of program administrator, special education teacher, preschool teacher, family child care teacher, infant toddler teacher, and program support staff.

The educators who were selected as Early Educators of the Year from each of the six categories include:

Administrator: Sabrina Drake, Solano Community College Fairfield campus.

Special Education Teacher: Heather Hanks, SCOE Me Too Program at T.C. McDaniel Early Learning Center in Fairfield.

Preschool Teacher: Maribel Romero, Mathew Turner Preschool in Benicia.

Family Childcare Teacher: Fabiola Jimenez, Kiddoz Daycare in Vallejo.

Infant Toddler Teacher: Tami Morris, Circle of Friends in Fairfield.

Support Staff: Rachel Taylor, Solano Community College Fairfield campus.

"Early learning educators play a vital role in a child's education. Their positive impacts encourage social skills, emotional well-being, and a love for learning. By creating a nurturing and motivating environment, early educators help children build confidence, curiosity, and resilience, laying a strong foundation for lifelong success and personal development," remarked Solano County Superintendent of Schools Lisette Estrella-Henderson.

SCOE extends congratulations to each extraordinary awardee and nominee. The nominees' demonstrations of leadership and commitment to fostering the growth and development of young children and families in Solano County will have lasting impacts.

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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.