



Lisette Estrella-Henderson, Superintendent of Schools
5100 Business Center Drive, Fairfield, CA 94534-1658
707.399.4400 ★ www.solanocoe.net

PRESS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Organization: Solano County Office of Education
Contact: Ken Scarberry, Director Youth Development
Telephone: 707-646-7603
E-Mail: kscarberry@solanocoe.net

Nominees for 2017-2018 Solano County Educators of the Year Announced *May 2, 2017 event celebrates 13 school district employees*

Teachers, paraeducators, child nutrition, support services and security and school staff all contribute to student achievement, educational innovation and community involvement in Solano County's Schools.

The Solano County Office of Education will honor 13 school district employees nominated for the 2017-18 Solano County Educators of the Year. A celebration will be held on Tuesday, May 2, 2017, from 5:15 PM – 7:00 PM at the Joseph A. Nelson Community Center, 611 Village Drive in Suisun City. The reception will begin with an introduction of each candidate and presentations commemorating their nomination.

One certificated (teacher) and one classified (school support) award recipient will be selected, and their names forwarded to the California Department of Education to represent Solano County in a statewide Educators of the Year Competition.

Solano County Educators of the Year Nominees are:

- **Lee Anne Aidt**, Mathematics Teacher, Benicia High School, Benicia Unified School District
- **Angela Porter**, Campus Supervisor, Benicia Middle School, Benicia Unified School District
- **Martha Salazar**, Reading and ELD Teacher, Anderson Elementary School, Dixon Unified School District
- **Debbie Thiessen**, Food Service Coordinator, Dixon High School, Dixon Unified School District
- **Cindy Lederer**, Physical Education Teacher, multiple school sites, Fairfield-Suisun Unified School District
- **Jepssy Freire**, Bilingual Para Educator & Community Outreach Liaison, Cleo Gordon Elementary School, Fairfield-Suisun Unified School District

- **Judith Waelbrock, M.A.**, Adult Transition Teacher, Golden Hills Education Center, Solano County Office of Education
- **Mary Whitworth Baichtal**, Second Grade Teacher, Cambridge Elementary School, Travis Unified School District
- **Tracy Ruiz**, English Teacher, Will C. Wood High School, Vacaville Unified School District
- **Alicia Topete**, Para Professional, Alamo Elementary School, Vacaville Unified School District
- **Joan Samson**, Kindergarten Teacher, Glen Cove Elementary School, Vallejo City Unified School District
- **Cristina Gutierrez**, Bilingual Tutor – Instructional Assistant, Franklin Middle School, Vallejo City Unified School District

We welcome you to celebrate the many accomplishments and commitment of these devoted educators. If you would like to attend the event, please RSVP at <https://goo.gl/forms/Vsu0neINXeEvL85D2>. For more information, please contact Rebecca Floyd at (707) 646-7602 or rfloyd@solanocoe.net.