



YOLO COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION

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California Community College Makerspace Project
Sacramento, CA 95811

To Whom It May Concern

The Yolo County Office of Education (YCOE) is pleased to support the Woodland Community College (WCC) application for the California Community College Makerspace Project. YCOE provides programming and support services for our county run school sites and school districts across the county. The YCOE strongly believes that the WCC Makerspace Project offers solutions and areas of partnership to address educational barriers facing our community. Examples of barriers are shared below:

- Entering students are unprepared in math – 79% of these students are not ready for college level math.
- Fewer students declare an interest in pursuing STEM degrees.
- Only 8% of students who take a math course three levels below transfer successfully transition to a transfer level math course.
- Success rates in STEM disciplines are low

The WCC project aims at promoting student engagement and completion through Science, Technology, Mathematics and Engineering (STEM) activities. Through the Makerspace Project and its emphasis on project based learning and internships, the College will respond to the challenges of increasing STEM enrollment and completion rates at its three sites, one of which exists within our service area. Over the years, we have collaborated with WCC through summer dual enrollment academies, introducing kindergarteners to a college going culture, and expanding career and technical education (CTE) in our service areas. The Makerspace at WCC will continue to enhance this partnership, for example, high school students and their college counterparts can work collaboratively in this space and students will be introduced to high demand, high wage STEM careers. In addition, YCOE is focused on working with WCC to grow dual enrollment courses for high school students. Moreover, the Makerspace can also be an avenue for our efforts at career badging and stackable certificates that will be developed as part of the curriculum orientation of the WCC Project.

The YCOE strongly supports the application and envision this project as another means of enhancing our student learning partnership with Woodland Community College.

Sincerely,

Lori Perez, Director of College and Career Readiness

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