



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, good attendance is essential to student achievement and graduation, and we are committed to dedicating our resources and attention to reducing chronic absenteeism rates, with a focus starting as early as kindergarten; and

WHEREAS, chronic absence – missing 10 percent or more of school for any reason including excused and unexcused absences, or just two of three days a month – is a proven predictor of academic trouble and dropout rates; and

WHEREAS, chronic absence predicts lower third-grade reading proficiency, course failure and eventual dropout, it weakens our communities and our local economy; and

WHEREAS, the impact of chronic absence hits low-income students and children of color particularly hard if they don't have the resources to make up for lost time in the classroom and are more likely to face systemic barriers to getting to school – such as unreliable transportation, lack of access to health care, unstable or unaffordable housing; and

WHEREAS, schools and community partners must do more to track, calculate and share the data on how many students are chronically absent so that we can deliver the right interventions to the right students; and


WHEREAS, chronic absence can be significantly reduced when schools, parents and communities work together to monitor and promote good attendance and address hurdles that keep children from getting to school.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Joyce Downing, Mayor of the City of Northglenn, Colorado, hereby proclaim the month of September 2015 as:

ATTENDANCE AWARENESS MONTH

in the City of Northglenn and hereby commit to focusing on reducing chronic absenteeism to give all children an equitable opportunity to learn, grow and thrive academically, emotionally and socially.

Dated, at Northglenn, Colorado this 24th day of August 2015.


JOYCE DOWNING
MAYOR

