

School Board Appreciation Month

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WHEREAS, the education of Virginia's school-aged children is the foundation upon which the economic, social, and intellectual strength of our Commonwealth is built; and

WHEREAS, locally-elected and locally-appointed school board members play an important and vital role in our representative democracy, as the decisions of local school boards directly influence instruction in Virginia's public schools; and

WHEREAS, the leadership of our school boards affect the development and future of our children and ensure that students are prepared to compete in local, state, national, and global economies; and

WHEREAS, local school boards devote themselves to providing a high-quality education for all students in the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, this year's theme – 115 Years of Providing Leadership Advocacy and Support – reflects the partnership of the Virginia School Boards Association with local school board members as they serve their local divisions and advocate for public education with local, state, and federal leaders on behalf of all students; and

WHEREAS, school board members work with parents, businesses, education professionals, and other community members to create the educational vision we want for our students; and

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth of Virginia is proud of our education system and appreciates the efforts of local school board members to make the Virginia public school system an excellent place in which to educate our youth; and

WHEREAS, School Board Appreciation Month recognizes school board members for their leadership and support of a public school system from which the entire Commonwealth benefits; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ralph S. Northam, do hereby recognize February 2021 as **SCHOOL BOARD APPRECIATION month** in our **COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA**, and I call this observance to the attention of all our citizens.