

PROCLAMATION

DESIGNATING SEPTEMBER, 2018, AS ATTENDANCE AWARENESS MONTH

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

WHEREAS, improving attendance and reducing chronic absences takes commitment, collaboration, and tailored approaches to particular challenges and strengths in each community; and

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

WHEREAS, schools and community partners can reach out more frequently to absent students to determine why they are missing school and what would help them attend more regularly; and

WHEREAS, chronic absences 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, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, FLORIDA that the Board designates the month of September, 2018 as “**Attendance Awareness Month**”. The Board urges the community to commit to focusing on reducing chronic absenteeism to give all children an equitable opportunity to learn, grow, and thrive academically, emotionally, and socially.

Adopted this 11th day of September, 2018.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, FLORIDA**

Peter D. O'Bryan, Chairman

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