

Proclamation

Attendance Awareness Month

September 2024

Whereas, the nation is experiencing a school absenteeism crisis, making good attendance more essential than ever to student well-being, achievement, and the pursuit of successful adulthood through various educational and vocational paths; and,

Whereas, students and families are more likely to show up and engage when there are positive conditions for learning in their communities, including physical and emotional health and safety; a sense of belonging, connection, and support; academic challenges and engagement; and adults and peers with social-emotional competency; and,

Whereas, reducing chronic absence (missing 10% or more of school for any reason) requires a collective visioning of a comprehensive, trauma-informed approach that starts with prevention and early intervention that create a communal sense of belonging for students and families in Adams County; and,

Whereas, consistent school attendance is foundational to the economic prosperity, health, and overall well-being of communities. It helps develop an educated, healthy, and socially responsible population, which in turn nurtures our thriving and resilient Adams County community; and,

Whereas, improving attendance and engagement takes schools, families, elected leaders, and other community partners working together to improve attendance, engagement, and trust in our schools and to identify and address barriers to being in school; and,

Whereas, Adams County families, business owners, leaders, and youth play a crucial role in changing the culture of school attendance in our communities. It is imperative we increase our dialogues about school attendance and commit to noticing early signs of chronic absenteeism. By doing so, we can engage students and families promptly with the necessary support and resources; a vital early intervention strategy to fostering an environment where every student is present and ready to learn, has increased access to resources, increased feelings of belonging, and improved family-school relationships; and,

Whereas, Adams County stands with the nation in recognizing September as “Attendance Awareness Month,” and supports the work done by the Adams County Collaborative Management Program to reduce absenteeism and address the factors that cause students to miss school to ensure all children have an equal opportunity to learn, grow, and thrive academically, emotionally, and socially; and,

Whereas, communities must work together to strengthen an environment that motivates school attendance and sends the message that every student has the power to take responsibility for their learning, engagement, and growth, and also must work to hold systems accountable for providing healthy, safe environments for all students to thrive and succeed.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that the Board of Commissioners, of the County of Adams, State of Colorado, proclaims September 2024 as

“Attendance Awareness Month”

*In witness whereof, we have set our hands and caused the seal of the county to be affixed
September 3, 2024.*