

Office of the Mayor
Fairbanks North Star Borough
Alaska
Proclamation

WHEREAS, good attendance is essential to student achievement and graduation and has been identified as one of the core challenges that communities must focus attention on as part of the **National Campaign For Grade-Level Reading to improve 3rd-grade reading proficiency**, and

WHEREAS, chronic absence - missing ten percent or more of school for any reason, predicts lower 3rd grade reading proficiency including and is a predictor of academic trouble and increased drop-out rates; and

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

WHEREAS, chronic absence, course failure, and eventual drop-out eventually weakens our community and our local economy; and

WHEREAS, the impact of chronic absence hits low-income students particularly hard if they don't have the resources to make up for lost time and it exacerbates the achievement gap that separates low-income students from their peers; and

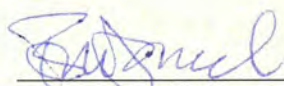
WHEREAS, consistent attendance is significantly improved when schools, families, and communities work together to address the hurdles that keep children from getting to school.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bryce Ward, Mayor of the Fairbanks North Star Borough, and I, Jim Matherly, Mayor of the City of Fairbanks, and I, Michael Welch, Mayor of the City of North Pole, by the authority vested in us, do hereby proclaim the month of November 2020 as:

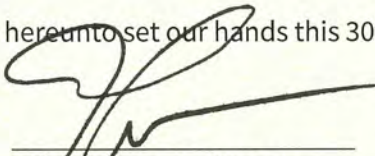
Stars of Gold Readers- School Engagement Month

Together, we support our local affiliate of the **Campaign for Grade-Level Reading, Stars of Gold Readers program**. We encourage our entire community to actively support consistent school attendance by encouraging every student and their family to engage with their home school every day, whether it is in person or virtually, or mixed.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our hands this 30th day of October 2020.



Bryce Ward, Mayor
Fairbanks North Star
Borough



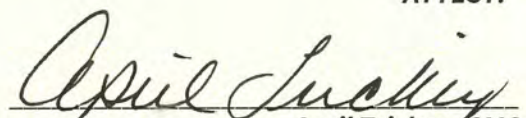
Jim Matherly, Mayor
City of Fairbanks



Michael Welch, Mayor
City of North Pole



ATTEST:



April Trickey, CMC
Borough Clerk