

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, The Suncoast Campaign for Grade-Level Reading is a four-county effort in Charlotte, DeSoto, Manatee, and Sarasota counties fostering wide community participation to achieve shared aspirations for the success of families and children; and The Patterson Foundation serves as the regional accelerator for the Suncoast Campaign for Grade-Level Reading with county specific work; and

WHEREAS, data reveals that chronic absenteeism—defined as missing 10 percent or more of school days due to any reason—whether excused, unexcused, or due to suspensions, significantly hinders academic achievement, leading to reading difficulties in third graders, academic challenges in sixth graders, and graduation hurdles for high school students; and

WHEREAS, research underscores that chronic absenteeism can be effectively addressed through collaborative efforts among school districts, communities, and policymakers, focusing on monitoring attendance and implementing targeted solutions to tackle its root causes; and

WHEREAS, working together with local schools, families, elected leaders and other community partners, The Suncoast Campaign for Grade-Level Reading is committed to focusing on reducing absenteeism and addressing the factors that cause students to miss school in order to ensure all children an equal opportunity to learn, grow and thrive academically, emotionally, and socially; and

WHEREAS, The Suncoast Campaign for Grade-Level Reading is taking proactive steps to emphasize the importance of regular attendance during September 2024, through initiatives such as the Attendance Awareness Poster Contest, designed to recognize the critical role of regular school attendance and promote a positive message about outstanding attendance among students, educators, and families.

NOW, THEREFORE, we, the City Commission of the City of North Port, Florida, do hereby proclaim September 2024, as

“Attendance Awareness Month”

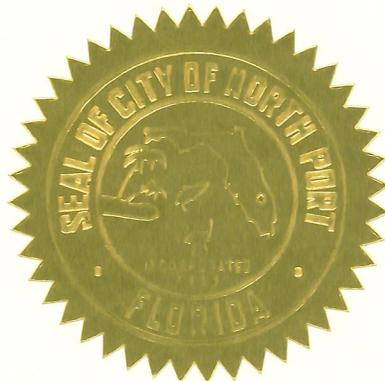
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our hands and Seal of the City of North Port, Florida, to be affixed this 5th day of September 2024.

CITY OF NORTH PORT, FLORIDA

Alice White, Mayor

Phil Stokes, Vice-Mayor

Debbie McDowell, Commissioner



Barbara Langdon, Commissioner

Pete Emrich, Commissioner

ATTEST

Heather Faust, City Clerk