

Office of the Governor



JOHN BEL EDWARDS

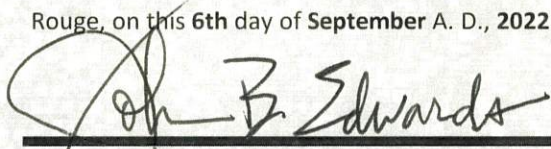
PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS,** Louisiana is focused on student attendance and engagement, and is committed to ensuring all students have an equitable opportunity to learn, grow and thrive; and
- WHEREAS,** students are more likely to attend when these four conditions for learning are in place: physical and emotional health and safety; a sense of belonging, connection, and support; academic challenge and engagement; and adults and peers with social emotional competency; and
- WHEREAS,** partnering with students, families, schools, and communities will enable stronger supports to engage students in learning, whether in-person, remote or through blended approaches; and
- WHEREAS,** understanding and addressing barriers to attendance requires building and sustaining caring relationships and regular communications in the home-language spoken by students and families; and
- WHEREAS,** students who are chronically absent miss 10 percent or more of their academic instruction and are more likely to need additional wrap-around supports and resources; and
- WHEREAS,** absenteeism and punitive approaches to school discipline greatly contribute to the achievement gap; and
- WHEREAS,** using absentee and attendance data can quickly alert families, schools, and community partners of high levels of absenteeism and missed opportunities to learn - by learning mode, school, grade, and student population - so early interventions can be identified; and
- WHEREAS,** students are more likely to attend school when positive conditions for learning are in place; and
- WHEREAS,** schools are places where students build routines and develop trusting relationships with peers, teachers and school staff; and
- WHEREAS,** improving attendance requires identifying and addressing factors that contribute to students missing school, including lack of digital access and connectivity, mental and physical health services and access to basic economic supports such as food and housing.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, John Bel Edwards, Governor of the State of Louisiana, do hereby proclaim September 2022 as

ATTENDANCE AWARENESS MONTH
in the State of Louisiana.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand officially and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Louisiana, at the Capitol, in the City of Baton Rouge, on this 6th day of September A. D., 2022.



John Bel Edwards
Governor

