

Proclamation

WHEREAS, academic achievement is something for which every community strives and regular and consistent attendance is essential to student achievement, and

WHEREAS, chronic absence, missing 10% of school days or more of school for any reason, is a well-established predictor of academic struggle for students of any age, as well as a powerful predictor of school dropout, it weakens our communities and our local economy, and

WHEREAS, during the 2014 – 2015 school year approximately 9% of students in the Greater Omaha Metropolitan Area were chronically absent; totaling more than 9,000 students missing more than 20 days of school, and

WHEREAS, all students are impacted by chronic absence, as teachers spend significant class time reviewing material missed by absent students, and

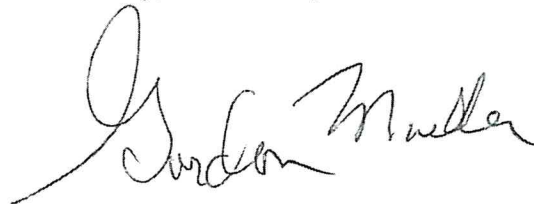
WHEREAS, reducing chronic absence takes commitment, collaboration, and tailored approaches to particular challenges and strengths in each community, and

WHEREAS, chronic absence can be significantly reduced when schools, families, and communities work together to monitor and promote attendance and address barriers to such, and

WHEREAS, the GOALS Center strives to improve attendance through voluntary programing, in collaboration with schools and communities, for students with school attendance concerns or barriers and their families.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that as the Mayor of Bennington, I proclaim our city will stand with the nation in recognizing September as “Attendance Awareness Month.”

We hereby commit to focusing on reducing chronic absenteeism to give all children an equitable opportunity to learn, grow, and thrive academically, emotionally, and socially.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gordon Mueller". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "G" and a long, sweeping underline.