

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AWARENESS MONTH
SEPTEMBER 2014

WHEREAS, the Alameda County Board of Supervisors would like to declare **SEPTEMBER 2014** as **SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AWARENESS MONTH** in Alameda County; and

WHEREAS, Alameda County is committed to dedicating resources and the attention needed to reducing chronic absenteeism and truancy rates in an effort to give all children an equitable opportunity to learn, grow and thrive academically, emotionally and socially; and

WHEREAS, missing ten percent or more of a school year for any reason, excused or unexcused often leads to lower academic achievement and drop-out rates; and

WHEREAS, building a habit of regular attendance is a critical strategy for preventing later truancy and the need for court intervention; and

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

WHEREAS, school attendance improves, and chronic absenteeism is significantly reduced, when schools, parents, and communities work together to monitor and promote good attendance and address hurdles that keep children from attending school; and

WHEREAS, chronic absenteeism can be significantly reduced when schools, parents and communities work together to help children develop a habit of regular attendance; successful strategies also include monitoring and using attendance data to trigger action and address hurdles such as health conditions, transportation and unstable housing that keep children from getting to school; and

WHEREAS, the school districts within Alameda County refer cases involving habitually truant students to the Alameda County District Attorney’s Office’s Truancy and Attendance Program, an innovative court-based intervention run in collaboration with the Alameda County Office of Education, the Alameda County Probation Department, Alameda County Health Care Services Agency and the Alameda County Superior Court; and

WHEREAS, the District Attorney’s Truancy and Attendance Program and the Alameda County Superior Court holds an annual event celebrating the students accomplishments based upon improved attendance and acknowledges the successes of the parents and guardians.

THEREFORE, this Board of Supervisors, County of Alameda, State of California, does hereby proclaim **SEPTEMBER 2014** as **SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AWARENESS MONTH** in Alameda County and encourages the residents of Alameda County to be aware of the importance of keeping our youth in school.

KEITH CARSON, PRESIDENT
SUPERVISOR, FIFTH DISTRICT

SCOTT HAGGERTY, VICE-PRESIDENT
SUPERVISOR, FIRST DISTRICT

RICHARD VALLE
SUPERVISOR, SECOND DISTRICT

WILMA CHAN
SUPERVISOR, THIRD DISTRICT

NATE MILEY
SUPERVISOR, FOURTH DISTRICT