

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Kindness is the quality of being friendly, generous, and considerate and a powerful protective factor against bullying.

WHEREAS, Bullying is characterized by:

- one or more people repeatedly harm, harass, intimidate, or exclude others, and the person or people being bullied haven't been able to make it stop; and
- a power imbalance and is carried out on purpose;
- children's safety being jeopardized and potentially creates both short- and long-term problems for all children involved; and
- children who are bullied, as well as children who witness bullying are more likely to develop future academic problems and psychological difficulties such as depression and low self-esteem; and
- children who regularly bully others are at greater risk of becoming perpetrators of domestic violence, child abuse, hate crimes, sexual abuse, and other illegal behaviors; and

WHEREAS, it is everyone's responsibility to prevent bullying and to put an end to it when it occurs; and

WHEREAS, bystanders who witness bullying have the power to stop it; and

WHEREAS, children who promote kindness can positively impact other children around them; and

WHEREAS, research shows that one of the most effective ways bystanders can reduce or stop bullying is to react with kindness and respect, and to use assertive behavior to report and refuse bullying; and

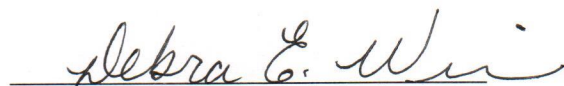
WHEREAS, one less instance of bullying is one more step towards a world of kindness;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Debra E. Winn, proclaim October 15 to be in our city

NATIONAL BYSTANDER POWER DAY

I encourage all residents to use their bystander power to prevent future incidents of bullying by recognizing, reporting and refusing bullying.

Signed this 18th day of September 2018



Debra E. Winn, Mayor

