

Proclamation

Whereas, our success as a community depends on helping every child succeed in school and reach their full potential in life, and we realize that young people need a solid foundation of support to help them become well-educated, confident, and productive citizens; and

Whereas, Communities In Schools is the only dropout-prevention program in the nation proven to increase graduation rates, and this research shows that mentoring has beneficial and long-term effects on youth by increasing their chances of high school graduation and college attendance, and decreasing the likelihood of substance abuse and other risky behaviors; and

Whereas, thousands of Renton's children are in need of a caring adult mentor in their lives, and closing this mentoring gap will require more investment, partnerships, and volunteers ready to make a difference in a child's life; and

Whereas, National Mentoring Month is an opportunity to raise public awareness of the importance of mentoring, recognize the dedicated individuals who serve as mentors, and encourage more citizens to help build a brighter future for Renton's youth through mentoring; and

Whereas, the core values of Communities In Schools of Renton are equity, opportunity, and collaboration, and they are in schools to remove barriers, create opportunities, and help kids stay in school;

 ${\it Now, therefore, I, Denis Law, Mayor of the City of Renton, do hereby proclaim January 2019 to be$

National Mentoring Month

in the City of Renton in tribute to the many dedicated individuals who volunteer their time, compassion, and talents to mentor young people, and I encourage all citizens to join me in this special observance and to consider giving back to our community as mentors.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Renton to be affixed this 14th day of January, 2019.

Denis Law, Mayor

City of Renton, Washington