



The City of
Fort Myers, Florida

Proclamation

Whereas, undiagnosed and untreated vision-related learning problems are significant contributors to early reading difficulties and ultimately to special education classification; and

Whereas, vision problems impact millions of American children, with an estimated 10% of schoolchildren having significant enough vision problems to interfere with learning; and

Whereas, 20/20 vision means the ability to see a certain-sized letter from 20 feet away, regardless of focusing, coordinating and tracking, which means that vision screenings can miss up to 50% of vision problems that can interfere with learning; and

Whereas, studies indicate when children with previously undiagnosed vision problems are treated, they are able to improve their reading ability by two grade levels in just six months; and

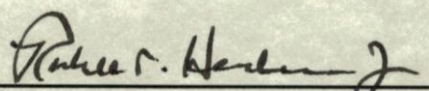
Whereas, the American Federation of Teachers, the U.S. Department of Education, the American Public Health Association, the National Head Start Association, and the National Parent Teacher Association support comprehensive eye examinations for school-aged children to address vision and eye health issues as a key element of ensuring school readiness in children.

Now, Therefore, I, Randall P. Henderson, Jr., by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Fort Myers, Florida, do hereby proclaim August 2016, as

CHILDREN'S VISION AND LEARNING MONTH

in Fort Myers, Florida, and urge residents to recognize the importance of appropriate diagnosis and intervention of vision-related learning problems.

In Witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and the Great Seal of the City of Fort Myers, Florida, on this 15th day of August in the Year of our Lord Two Thousand and Sixteen.


Randall P. Henderson, Jr.
Mayor

