



# City of Charleston

JOHN J. TECKLENBURG

MAYOR

## PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS,** as children across the City of Charleston prepare for the start of a new school year, many students will begin their studies with undiagnosed and untreated vision problems; and
- WHEREAS,** vision disorders are the number one handicapping condition for children, and millions of children will not have an eye examination by an eye doctor by the time they enter school; and
- WHEREAS,** research shows that vision disorders can affect as many as one in four school-aged children with vision problems that could interfere with learning, according to the College of Optometrists in Vision Development (COVD); and
- WHEREAS,** COVD asks that parents and teachers look for signs—frequent loss of place when reading; omits, inserts, or rereads letters/words; squinting; headaches or dizziness after reading—when a child is struggling academically, behaviorally, or in sports; and
- WHEREAS,** all children deserve the opportunity to learn and to achieve their full potential. For this reason, public awareness about learning-related vision problems is helpful to ensure that young people receive the prompt vision treatment needed to enhance their lives; and
- WHEREAS,** parents, educators, school nurses, and concerned adults should recognize the critical role that good vision plays in the learning process and work together to help prevent or reduce the impact that untreated vision problems can have on our children's ability to learn and read; and
- WHEREAS,** I encourage all citizens to recognize the significant role that good vision has on the learning process and the quality of life of children across the Lowcountry.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I,** John J. Tecklenburg, Mayor of the City of Charleston, on behalf of the City Council and all of our citizens, do hereby proclaim August 2017 as:

### **CHILDREN'S VISION AND LEARNING MONTH**

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I do hereby set my hand, and cause the seal of Charleston to be affixed, this 31st day of July in the year of 2017.

  
John J. Tecklenburg, Mayor

