

WHEREAS; as kids across the state prepare for the start of another school year, it is important to acknowledge that many of them will begin their studies with undiagnosed and untreated vision problems; and

WHEREAS; according to the College of Optometrists in Vision Development, as many as one in ten kids have vision problems significant enough to affect their learning; and

WHEREAS; some of the most common vision disorders among kids include nearsightedness, farsightedness, and astigmatism, all of which have the potential to significantly impede the learning process; and

WHEREAS; kids are often unable to realize or articulate that they are experiencing vision issues, which is why it is necessary for parents to be able to identify the common symptoms, including frequent headaches, continuous squinting, blinking, rubbing of the eyes, impaired reading comprehension, and feelings of dizziness or nausea; and

WHEREAS; racial and socioeconomic inequities in access to suitable eye care can often hinder necessary corrective treatment, and addressing the systemic factors that lead to a lack of care for marginalized communities is critically important for Wisconsin's kids; and

WHEREAS; every kid in Wisconsin deserves the opportunity to learn and to achieve their full potential, and public awareness of learning-related vision problems is essential to ensuring that kids receive the prompt vision treatment they need to be their best selves, both in and out of the classroom; and

WHEREAS; this month, the state of Wisconsin joins parents, educators, school nurses, and all concerned adults across the state in recognizing the critical role that good vision plays in the learning process and in working to help prevent or reduce the impact that untreated vision problems can have on Wisconsin's kids;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,
do hereby proclaim August 2023 as

CHILDREN'S VISION AND LEARNING MONTH

throughout the State of Wisconsin and I commend this observance
to all our state's residents.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this 21st day of July 2023.



TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:



SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State