

WHEREAS; every year, the celebration of School Social Work Week highlights the central role that school social workers play in the lives of students and families across Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS; the unprecedented challenges of the coronavirus pandemic have only underscored the need for school-based social work programs in order to meet the emotional, physical, and environmental needs of Wisconsin's students and improve their chances for academic success; and

WHEREAS; school social workers are mental health experts who are especially skilled in identifying and providing services to students who are facing circumstances and obstacles that can hinder learning and growth, such as poverty, disability, discrimination, abuse, addiction, bullying, divorce, or grief and loss; and

WHEREAS; the state of Wisconsin has been proud to advance and support innovative initiatives to increase vital mental and behavioral health services in Wisconsin schools, including measures to reimburse schools for the cost of school mental health professionals like social workers through the "Get Kids Ahead" initiative, as well as supporting the overall, long-term success of the social work industry; and

WHEREAS; the theme for this year's School Social Work week is "We Rise!" to celebrate the countless school social workers throughout the state that rise up to create a positive school environment, foster vital partnerships among families, schools, and local communities, and support all students; and

WHEREAS; this week, the state of Wisconsin joins all Wisconsinites in thanking school social workers across the state for the important work they do to promote the academic, social, and personal success of Wisconsin's students;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,
do hereby proclaim March 5 through 11 2023 as

SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKER WEEK

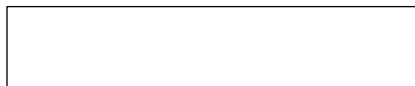
throughout the State of Wisconsin and I commend this observance
to all our state's residents.

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 24th day of February 2023.



TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:



DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE, Secretary of State