WHEREAS; what is best for our students is what is best for our state, which means ensuring that every kid in Wisconsin has access to a high-quality public education, regardless of their zip code; and

WHEREAS; there are nearly 860,000 Wisconsin students enrolled in schools across the state, and nearly 150,000 teachers, staff, and administrators who dedicate themselves to making a difference in the lives of Wisconsin’s kids; and

WHEREAS; even in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, which has prevented educators and students from being together in the classroom, educators across Wisconsin have gone above and beyond adapting to online learning and doing everything they can to continue connecting with their students and their families during these difficult times; and

WHEREAS; Wisconsin’s educators make learning possible by fostering positive, supportive, and inclusive environments where students of all ages, backgrounds, identities, and abilities can reach their full potential; and

WHEREAS; while our students study math, science, social studies, and language arts, our state’s educators make sure that they are also learning kindness, respect, empathy, compassion, integrity, and civility; and

WHEREAS; our educators work tirelessly to open students’ minds to new ideas, encourage them to think critically, inspire them to dream big, and teach them to be good people and good citizens; and

WHEREAS; our biennial state budget invested more than $500 million in our kids and K-12 education, including an additional $2 million for our rural teacher talent program and an historic $97 million increase in funding for special education; and

WHEREAS; while these were important investments, we recognize that much more still needs to be done to support our educators so that they have the resources they need to teach, empower, and inspire kids across our state; and

WHEREAS; the state of Wisconsin remains committed to fighting for meaningful investments in our kids, our educators, and our schools, and reaffirms our responsibility to ensure our educators are treated with dignity and respect by acknowledging the work they do is valued and essential to our kids and our state’s future;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby proclaim May 5, 2020, as

NATIONAL TEACHERS DAY

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 27th day of April 2020.

TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE, Secretary of State