

WHEREAS; our kids are one of our state's greatest resources, and those with intellectual, academic, creative, leadership, and artistic gifts and talents have unique needs that deserve to be recognized, respected, and supported; and

WHEREAS; just as giftedness comes in a variety of domains, it also affects learners of all ages, ethnicities, gender identities, and income levels, yet students from minority backgrounds and students living in poverty are two and a half times less likely to be identified or acknowledged as gifted in schools across our country; and

WHEREAS; underachievement in school may be caused by numerous factors for some of the brightest children, underscoring the role that informed counselors, teachers, and parents play in helping kids overcome the social, emotional, and psychological challenges involved in growing up; and

WHEREAS; every kid in Wisconsin deserves equal access to fair and unbiased identification strategies and resources, regardless of identity or background, and our state remains committed to eliminating barriers to resources for gifted learners and their families, and to enabling all learners to reach their highest potential through well-funded special education programs throughout our state; and

WHEREAS; this month, the state of Wisconsin recognizes that it is through the dedicated and collaborative efforts of state agencies and programs, school district staff, families, organizations, community members, educators, and students that we can implement practices that help to close the opportunity gap for marginalized students, promote greater equity in identifying and nurturing the talents and gifts of learners, and build an education system that works for everyone;

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

GIFTED EDUCATION 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 15th day of October 2020.



TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:



DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE, Secretary of State