

## PROCLAMATION CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION MONTH FEBRUARY 2018

WHEREAS, there are 20,800 high school students enrolled in career and technical education across the state gaining the academic, technical and employability skills necessary for career readiness; and

WHEREAS, students who concentrate in career and technical education programs participate in authentic, meaningful experiences that improve the quality of their education as indicated by a 95 percent graduation rate from high school compared to 87 percent of all students statewide; and

WHEREAS, career and technical education provides career exploration opportunities through a statewide online system called RUReadyND, which is used in 96 percent of all schools, enabling students to make informed and beneficial decisions about their academic coursework; and

WHEREAS, leaders from business and industry statewide report increasing challenges related to the skills gap and connecting qualified professionals with available careers in critical and growing CTE-related fields, including health care, energy, advanced manufacturing, value added agriculture and information technology; and

WHEREAS, career and technical education prepares students for these and other fulfilling careers by offering integrated programs of study that link secondary and postsecondary education; and

WHERAS, the access and delivery of CTE programming enables 568 local school programs across the state to provide 1,120 programs through distance delivery, ensuring more students have more opportunities to address their education, interest and career goals.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim February 2018, CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION MONTH in the State of North Dakota.

Doug Burgum

ATTEST:

Alvin A. Jaeger Secretary of State