

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

PROCLAMATION

SUMMER OF READING FOR 20 SUMMER 2021

WHEREAS, our children have experienced a disruption in education due to COVID-19 and, on average, children experience at least one month of learning loss over the summer; and

WHEREAS, research has proven that reading for just 20 minutes a day can drastically improve students' test scores and increase their vocabulary, and reading will not only help in school success, but will stimulate imagination which can introduce children to concepts, cultures and possibilities beyond their own experiences and thereby build empathy; and

WHEREAS, when children read for 20 minutes a day they could be hearing and learning up to 1.8 million words per year, and adults who read for at least 20 minutes each day sharpen a variety of skills that are valuable in the workforce, including memory retention, social-emotional skills and critical thinking; and

WHEREAS, the experience of being read to helps children develop good listening skills by making them aware of the important components of language; and

WHEREAS, families who read together for 20 minutes a day, 7 days a week, will get 121 hours of bonding time every year; and

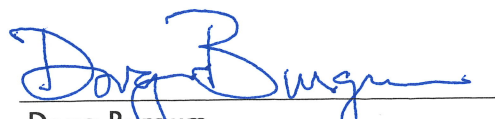
WHEREAS, research by the National Literacy Trust found that 90% of children feel happiest when reading and writing rather than playing video games or watching television; and

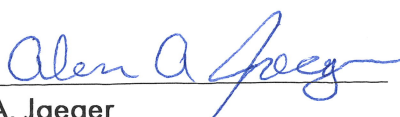
WHEREAS, young adults who enter college with established reading habits are better able to focus, develop critical thinking skills and understand complex issues, helping them to become engaged citizens who can objectively evaluate issues; and

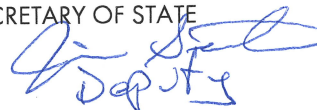
WHEREAS, North Dakotans are encouraged to read on their own or with a child for 20 minutes everyday.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim Summer 2021, **SUMMER OF READING FOR 20** in the State of North Dakota.




Doug Burgum
GOVERNOR

ATTEST: 
Alvin A. Jaeger
SECRETARY OF STATE


Deputy