

WHEREAS, Education has become a matter of national security and public schools are the backbone of our democracy, providing young people with the tools they need to maintain our nation's precious values of freedom, civility and equality; and

WHEREAS, by equipping young Americans with both practical skills and broader intellectual abilities, schools give them hope for, and access to, a productive future; and

WHEREAS, parents are an integral part of the education process; and

WHEREAS, a father, is part of a good parent team and is critical to a strong family structure, and with encouragement and unconditional love, fathers guide their children and help them envision brighter futures. They are teachers and coaches, friends and role models; fathers instill values like hard work and integrity, and teach their kids to take responsibility for themselves and those around them; and

WHEREAS, even in a time when technology allows us to connect instantly with almost anyone on earth, there is still no substitute for a father's presence, care, and support; a father who actively participates in the educational and social-emotional developmental life of a child is invaluable and irreplaceable; fathers provide essential contributions to our lives, our society and our nation; and

WHEREAS, research shows that children whose fathers take active roles in their educational lives earn better grades, score higher on tests, enjoy school more and are more likely to graduate from high school and attend college; and

WHEREAS, fathers, grandfathers, foster fathers, stepfathers, uncles, big brothers, significant male care givers, mentors and friends are all encouraged to participate in the *Million Father March* where 700 cities and 1,100,000 men are expected to participate.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Linda Hudson, Mayor of the City of Fort Pierce, Florida, do hereby proclaim Tuesday, October 7, 2014, as be observed as:

“Million Father March Day and Men take their Children to School Day”

and urge all citizens to observe this day by taking time to recognize and acknowledge the importance of male influence on educational success.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have
hereunto set my hand and caused the Official
Seal of the City of Fort Pierce, Florida, to be
affixed this 6th day of October, 2014.

MAYOR COMMISSIONER