

**Yolo County
Board of Supervisors**

Resolution No. 25-107

Recognizing September 2025 as “National Literacy Month”

WHEREAS, reading is a cornerstone for personal growth, economic opportunity, and a strong society; and

WHEREAS, assessments, such as the National Assessment of Educational Progress, report unacceptably poor student reading proficiency, highlighting the need for effective literacy instruction; and

WHEREAS, the Program for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies estimates that 48,000,000 adults in the United States cannot read above a third-grade level; and

WHEREAS, educational disparities persist among students in various States and districts, particularly impacting students of color, those from low-income backgrounds, and English learners; and

WHEREAS, citizens who struggle to achieve reading proficiency are less likely to graduate high school or be employed and are more likely to be incarcerated; and

WHEREAS, the interim report by the National Reading Panel found that the cost to taxpayers of adult illiteracy is \$224,000,000,000 per year and that United States companies lost nearly \$40,000,000,000 annually because of illiteracy; and

WHEREAS, reading proficiency is linked to economic mobility and overall life success; and

WHEREAS, Yolo County is home to vibrant library branches in Clarksburg, Davis, Esparto, Knights Landing, West Sacramento, Winters, and Woodland, which provide free resources, technology access, and programming that support literacy and lifelong learning; and

WHEREAS, an interdisciplinary body of research, known as the science of reading, demonstrates the effectiveness of evidence-based reading strategies in improving literacy outcomes; and

WHEREAS, access to print reading materials and robust content knowledge is essential for literacy success, with disparities affecting millions of children, particularly those from low-income households and communities of color; and

WHEREAS, evidence-based reading strategies include reading instruction and interventions based on rigorous scientific research that have demonstrated effectiveness in improving literacy development and skills in phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Yolo County Board of Supervisors hereby recognizes and honors September 2025 as “National Literacy Month.”

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 9th day of September, 2025 by the following vote:

AYES: Allen, Barajas, Villegas, Frerichs, Vixie Sandy.

Mary Vixie Sandy, Chair
Yolo County Board of Supervisors