

**Yolo County  
Board of Supervisors**

**Resolution No. 26-116**

***Recognizing September 2026 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 2026 as “National Literacy Month.”

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** this 8<sup>th</sup> day of September 2026 by the following vote:

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

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Sheila A. Allen, Chair  
Yolo County Board of Supervisors