

# Proclamation

*From the Mayor of Haslet, Texas*



## *Declaring September 2015 as Attendance Awareness Month in the City of Haslet.*

***WHEREAS**, good attendance is essential to student achievement and graduation, and we are committed to dedicating our resources and attention to reducing chronic absenteeism rates, with a focus starting as early as prekindergarten and kindergarten;*

***WHEREAS**, chronic absence – missing 10 percent or more of school for any reason including excused and unexcused absences, or just two of three days a month – is a proven predictor of academic trouble and dropout rates;*

***WHEREAS**, improving attendance and reducing chronic absence takes commitment, collaboration and tailored approaches to particular challenges and strengths in each community;*

***WHEREAS**, chronic absence predicts lower third-grade reading proficiency, course failure and eventual dropout, it weakens our communities and our local economy;*

***WHEREAS**, the impact of chronic absence hits low-income students and children of color particularly hard if they don't have the resources to make up for lost time in the classroom and are more likely to face systemic barriers to getting to school – such as unreliable transportation, lack of access to health care, unstable or unaffordable housing;*

***WHEREAS**, absenteeism also undermines efforts to improve struggling schools, since it is hard to measure improvement in classroom instruction if students are not in class to benefit from them;*

***WHEREAS** schools and districts must do more to track, calculate and share the data on how many students are chronically absent so that we can see the attendance gaps and can deliver the right interventions to the right students;*

***WHEREAS** all students – even those who show up regularly – are affected by chronic absence because teachers must spend time reviewing for students who missed lessons;*

***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that I, Bob Golden, Mayor of Haslet, with and on the behalf of the City Council of the City of Haslet, Texas, do hereby proclaim September 2015 as Attendance Awareness Month in this City and that Haslet will stand with the nation in recognizing September as "Attendance Awareness Month." We hereby commit to focusing on reducing chronic absenteeism to give all children an equitable opportunity to learn, grow and thrive academically, emotional and socially.*

ISSUED: September 8, 2015.

*Bob Golden*  
**Bob Golden, Mayor**

