

RESOLUTION No. 6762

Resolution to Designate October 2023 as Dyslexia Awareness Month in PPS

RECITALS

- A. Dyslexia is a specific learning disability that is neurobiological in origin;
- B. Individuals with dyslexia may have difficulty in identifying or sequencing the individual sounds of spoken language, which affects the ability of an individual to speak, read, spell, and often learn a language;
- C. An individual with dyslexia may have a weakness in decoding or reading fluency and may have strength in higher level cognitive functions, such as reasoning, critical thinking, concept formation, or problem solving;
- D. Dyslexia is the most commonly occurring learning disability, 10-15% of the population is said to have dyslexia;
- E. Effective reading instruction for all children, screening to identify students at risk for dyslexia, as well as supplemental reading support for students at risk can help prevent reading problems;
- F. Early diagnosis of dyslexia is critical to ensure individuals with dyslexia receive focused, evidence-based intervention. Correct identification and intervention provides students with dyslexia self-awareness and self-empowerment. Provision of necessary accommodations and instruction help to ensure school and life success;
- G. In 2019, PPS educators and community stakeholders came together to develop a five-year Dyslexia Priority Plan. This multi-year plan identified a set of key actions PPS would take to better serve our students with reading difficulties such as dyslexia. It has led our district to adopt structured literacy curricula that aligns to the Science of Reading and the needs of students with dyslexia. These curricula are the forefront of our professional learning across the 23-24 school year in PPS.

RESOLUTION

The Portland Public Schools Board of Education recognizes that dyslexia has significant educational implications that must be addressed; and designates October 2023 as "Dyslexia Awareness Month".