



**NATIONAL EDUCATION SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS DAY
PROCLAMATION**

WHEREAS public schools are the backbone of our republic, providing young people with the tools they need to maintain our nation's precious values of freedom, civility, and equality; and

WHEREAS education support professionals are an integral part of the education process; and

WHEREAS education support professionals manage offices, provide custodial and maintenance services, prepare healthy meals for our students, provide health and student services, keep our schools safe, drive our buses and support student and classrooms as instructional assistants; and

WHEREAS during the pandemic, our education support professionals have been steadfast in their commitment to our students through Chromebook distribution, delivery of lunches, social distancing monitoring, HomeCoach support, troubleshooting technology for students and families, and attending to the wellbeing of students through wellness checks, care, and connection; and our custodial staff are diligent in their efforts to keep our schools clean and safe; and

WHEREAS education support professionals have stepped outside of their comfort zone and learned new technologies and performed different job skills; and

WHEREAS we know that the safety of our schools and our students and the academic engagement of our students could not be accomplished without our education support professionals as our frontline staff, which has become more evident in a pandemic; and

WHEREAS more than 42,000 Salem-Keizer Public Schools students rely on education support professionals for registration, transportation, meals, health and safety; and

WHEREAS our district could not operate on any given day without over 2,660 support professionals; and

WHEREAS education support professionals work tirelessly to serve our children and communities with care and professionalism;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Salem-Keizer Public Schools Board of Directors hereby proclaims Wednesday, November 18, 2020, as **NATIONAL EDUCATION SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS DAY** and urges that we observe this day by taking time to recognize and acknowledge the importance of education support professionals in our public schools.

Satya Chandragiri, Chairperson
Salem-Keizer Public Schools Board of Directors

November 10, 2020

Date