P R O C L A M A T I O N

WHEREAS*, more than 3.2 million American children are victims of bullying each year; and*

WHEREAS*, 71% of students report incidents of bullying as a problem at their school; and*

WHEREAS*, bullying continues to impact our nation's youth – about 1 in 4 children in the United States is bullied on a regular basis; and*

WHEREAS*, in Alexandria, 13% of high school students and (25%) of middle school students reported being bullied on school property and 13% reported being bullied electronically; and*

WHEREAS*, as civic leaders in the City of Alexandria, we can and shall use our resources to increase awareness of the negative effects and to prevent bullying among our youth; and*

WHEREAS*, the month of October is National Bullying Prevention Month, and Alexandria has again joined forces with over 200 other cities in United States Conference of Mayors through the Mayors' Campaign to End Bullying – Bully Project which creates ongoing city-wide bullying prevention initiatives to make schools a safe place for all children; and*

WHEREAS*, since its beginning in 2014, the local Mayor's Campaign to End Bullying committee members include city agencies, the school system, community organizations, youth leaders and community residents who pledge to continue to host discussions, programs, activities and sporting events, and to send a strong message to continue to help raise awareness and prevention under its "Bully Free Starts With Me!" theme; and*

WHEREAS*, the City of Alexandria will do all it can to call attention to the issue of bullying in schools, workplace and cyberspace by developing educational and prevention awareness programs to ensure that all students have access to a safe and secure educational environment.*

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ALLISON SILBERBERG*, Mayor of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, and on behalf of the Alexandria City Council, do hereby proclaim the month of October as:*

"NATIONAL BULLY PREVENTION MONTH"

In the City of Alexandria and affirm the commitment and support for the "Bully Free Starts With Me!" bully-prevention initiatives.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF*, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Alexandria to be affixed this 9th day of October, 2018.*

_____

MAYOR ALLISON SILBERBERG
On behalf of the City Council
of Alexandria, Virginia

ATTEST:

_____

Gloria A. Sitton, CMC City Clerk