

# STATE OF ALASKA



## *Executive Proclamation by Governor Bill Walker*

WHEREAS, Article VII, Section 1 of the Alaska Constitution directs the Legislature to “establish and maintain a system of public schools open to all children of the state.” By law, the Legislature has vested the governance of Alaska’s public school system in boards of locally elected citizens; and

WHEREAS, school board members are committed to the success of Alaska’s public schools and the students who attend, and they work closely with educational professionals, parents, and community members to promote excellence in learning and academic accomplishment; and

WHEREAS, school board members give their time and talents to their communities and offer a vision and voice of support for public school students; and

WHEREAS, locally chosen and elected school boards in Alaska continue to represent and function as a fundamental form of democracy within our education system. They communicate the needs of our students and schools, function as channels between the school district and the public, and carry forward the mission of advancing public education for the benefit of Alaska’s youth; and

WHEREAS, Alaska school board members also serve a vital function in communicating the needs of our students and schools to public policy makers, and convey the expectations of the public to employees in the district; and

WHEREAS, the State Board of Education and Early Development and the Department of Education and Early Development are tasked with the work to meet Alaska’s education challenge so that every student across our state has equal opportunities to learn and thrive, and the State appreciates the opportunity to partner with school board members, education professionals, students, parents, and all Alaskans to fully meet this challenge.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Bill Walker, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF ALASKA, do hereby proclaim February 2018 as:

### *School Board Recognition Month*

in Alaska, and encourage all Alaskans to recognize the hard work and commitment of school board members across the state, and to join them in developing and fostering an education system that meets the individual needs of Alaska’s students.

Dated: January 29, 2018



*Bill Walker*  
Bill Walker, Governor  
who has also authorized the  
seal of the State of Alaska to  
be affixed to this proclamation.