



Proclamation

PARENTS' DAY 2009

- WHEREAS, we honor and celebrate parents, recognizing their skills, knowledge, time and responsibility required daily for effective parenting; and*
- WHEREAS, children need love, respect, caring and understanding along with the firm, consistent guidelines parents and other involved adults provide in order to prepare them for a good, happy life; and*
- WHEREAS, children thrive physically, emotionally and cognitively when parents are adequately equipped to know how to best enhance their own attitudes, knowledge and skills; and*
- WHEREAS, children's most essential virtues are those modeled by parents and other concerned adults by the respect and consideration shown toward each other; and*
- WHEREAS, appropriate early experiences are vital to the development of a child's brain and have shown to minimize later academic failure, depression, addictions, teen pregnancy, delinquency and violent behavior; and*
- WHEREAS, competent parenting preparation is known to be the best way of reducing the abuse and neglect reported on three million children in the United States, as well as all those for whom reports are not filed; and*
- WHEREAS, physically and emotionally abused children are more likely to become involved in youth and adult violence and to pass abuse, neglect and violence on to following generations; and*
- WHEREAS, responsible parenting education will assist in preventing future child abuse by developing empathy, listening, problem solving and coping skills, and an understanding of child development and appropriate discipline in our next generation of parents; and*
- WHEREAS, all children need and deserve fathers, mothers and adult role models who are prepared to be engaged, nurturing and effective.*

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that July 26, 2009 be recognized as

PARENTS' DAY in PINELLAS COUNTY

and ask all adults who have regular contact with children to carefully plan and carry out at least one activity on this day to foster better parenting and nurturing skills.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the seal of Pinellas County, Florida is caused to be affixed this 26th day of July, 2009.

Calvin D. Knapp
 CALVIN D. KNAPP, Chairman
Karen Williams Seal
 KAREN WILLIAMS SEAL, Vice Chairman

Neil Sheppard
 NEIL SHEPPARD, Commissioner
Susan Latvala
 SUSAN LATVALA, Commissioner
John Morsini
 JOHN MORSINI, Commissioner
Kenneth T. Welch
 KENNETH T. WELCH, Commissioner

