FORSYTH COUNTY SCHOOLS

PROCLAMATION FOR HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

WHEREAS, Each year from September 15 to October 15, our nation celebrates National Hispanic Heritage Month, honoring the histories, cultures, and contributions of Hispanic Americans whose ancestors settled throughout the Americas and the Caribbean and built rich, enduring traditions of their own; and

WHEREAS, This observance began in 1968 as Hispanic Heritage Week under President Lyndon B. Johnson and was expanded in 1988 under President Ronald Reagan to a full 30 days, a window chosen because it captures the independence days of several Latin American nations, including Mexico on September 16 and Chile on September 18; and

WHEREAS, Hispanic communities have shaped the American story for more than 500 years, with roots reaching back to Spain, Mexico, Central America, South America, and the Spanish-speaking nations of the Caribbean; and

WHEREAS, America has been strengthened by Hispanic writers, scientists, service members, physicians, entrepreneurs, educators, and leaders across every field, and enriched by the music, art, literature, and creativity of Hispanic peoples; and

WHEREAS, Forsyth County Schools is proud to count 14% of our nearly 53,000 students among those of Hispanic heritage, an integral part of our school district family and the broader Forsyth County community; and

WHEREAS, The 2026 national theme for Hispanic Heritage Month, *"Unidos, Somos Más" — "Together, We Are More,"* calls on us to recognize the strength found in unity and the shared values of resilience, family, culture, and service that Hispanic communities bring to our nation; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Forsyth County Board of Education proclaims September 15 through October 15, 2026, as

National Hispanic Heritage Month,

and calls upon all students and staff of Forsyth County Schools to join in its observance.

Mike Valdes, Chairman

9/8/2026

Date