



COLORADO SPRINGS SCHOOLS DISTRICT 11 YOUTH APPRENTICESHIP WEEK PROCLAMATION

MAY 5 – 11, 2024

WHEREAS, Youth Apprenticeship Week is celebrating its inaugural year of raising awareness of the vital role Youth Apprenticeship plays as a proven and industry-driven training model and as a key strategy to improving job quality, and creating access to good-paying, family-sustaining jobs for youth and young adults; and

WHEREAS, Colorado Springs Schools District 11 recognizes the urgent need to prepare our students to address some of our nation's pressing workforce challenges such as rebuilding our country's infrastructure, addressing critical supply chain demands, supporting a clean energy workforce, modernizing our cybersecurity response, and responding to care economy issues; and

WHEREAS, Youth Apprenticeship programs enable employers to develop and train their future workforce while offering career seeking student's affordable pathways to high paying, good, quality jobs and well-paying careers and the ability to advance in those careers; and

WHEREAS, Colorado Springs Schools District 11 recognizes the role of Youth Apprenticeship in expanding opportunities in our workforce that are inclusive of young people who have been historically underserved, marginalized, and adversely affected by persistent poverty and inequality, thus providing a path for all qualified individuals, including women, people of color, rural and tribal communities, justice-involved individuals and individuals with disabilities, to become apprentices and contribute to America's industries; and

WHEREAS, Colorado Springs Schools District 11 recognizes the pivotal role educators, school counselors, and educational institutions serve in not only bringing awareness of Youth Apprenticeship opportunities to students and parents, but also serving as training providers, sponsors, and intermediaries.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Michael Gaal, Superintendent, of the Colorado Springs Schools District 11 call upon educators and local industry partners to recognize the value of Youth Apprenticeship, and to promote industry awareness and expansion during the 1st annual event of Youth Apprenticeship Week: May 5, 2024, through May 11, 2024.

IN SUPPORT,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Michael Gaal', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Michael Gaal, Superintendent, Colorado Springs Schools District 11
719-520-2000