

# NATRONA

## COUNTY SCHOOLS

### PROCLAMATION NATRONA COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

**WHEREAS**, the Natrona County Public Library has been providing educational resources to the students, teachers and families of Natrona County since 1910 and will celebrate its Centennial Anniversary this year; and

**WHEREAS**, the Natrona County Public Library is a gateway to learning and literacy, helping to prepare children for school with early literacy materials, training for parents, and preschool classes teaching creative expression, social skills, listening comprehension, letter and number recognition and vocabulary building (170 such classes were conducted in 2009 with 4,870 attendees); and

**WHEREAS**, in the early 1900s the Natrona County Public Library provided collections of books to classrooms before school libraries were established; 20,000 books were circulated through school collections in 1929, and these efforts continued through the 1940s; and

**WHEREAS**, a "Bookworm" program created in 1955 by NCSD#1 and transferred to the library in 1964, connected students with literacy, learning materials, and library services throughout the school year, and helped students retain their learning by reading during the summer months. The Natrona County Public Library's summer reading programs continue this service, now reaching over 3,000 students each summer; and

**WHEREAS**, in the summer of 1956 the county's first bookmobile was developed with a vehicle and driver provided by the school district and 2,000 books provided by the library. In 1971, the service became a library function, and now makes over 50 stops at outlying schools, rural areas, preschools and daycares, augmenting the educational opportunities available to county citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2002, the library began supporting professional development for NCSD #1 teachers, and continues to provide literacy based instruction in classrooms, reinforcing the importance of reading, math, science, cognitive, social and communication skills, providing over 490 Discover programs last year, reaching more than 13,200 students; and

**WHEREAS**, school libraries exist to directly support school curriculum, while the public library is able to augment school resources and enhance learning opportunities for students by offering a broader range and quantity of learning materials;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, be it resolved that I, Steve Degenfelder, Chairman of the Natrona County School District #1 Board, ask that all citizens join us on May 20, 2010 to celebrate 100 years of public library service to our community. I encourage all residents to use their library for the purpose of fostering literacy and education as community values.

Dated this 26<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2010.

  
Steve Degenfelder, Chair

  
Rita Walsh, Clerk