City of Minot Mayor Proclaims summer of 2021 as the Summer of Reading for 20

WHEREAS, research has proven that reading for just 20 minutes a day can drastically improve students' test scores and increase their vocabulary;

WHEREAS, reading will not only help in school success, but will stimulate imagination which can introduce children to concepts, cultures, and possibilities beyond their own experiences and thereby builds empathy;

WHEREAS, when children read for 20 minutes a day they could be hearing (and thus learning) up to 1.8 million words per year;

WHEREAS, adults who read for at least 20 minutes each day sharpen a variety of skills that are valuable in the workforce, including memory retention, social-emotional skills and critical thinking;

WHEREAS, the experience of being read to helps children develop good listening skills by making them aware of the important components of language;

WHEREAS, families who read together for 20 minutes a day, 7 days a week, will get 121 hours of bonding time every year;

WHEREAS, research by the National Literacy Trust found that 90% of children feel happiest when reading and writing rather than playing video games or watching television;

WHEREAS, young adults who enter college without established reading habits will struggle to focus, develop critical thinking skills, and understand complex issues;

WHEREAS, the ability to focus for 20 minutes helps lead to informed voters and involved citizens who can critically evaluate issues;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that I, Shaun Sipma, Mayor of Minot, ND, proclaim the summer of 2021 as the Summer of Reading for 20. During this summer, I encourage all residents to join together to promote the Read for 20 campaign by making the time to read on your own or with a child for 20 minutes every day.

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Shaun Sipma, Mayor, City of Minot

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City of Minot, City Clerk