

City of Philadelphia



Council of the City of Philadelphia
Office of the Chief Clerk
Room 402, City Hall
Philadelphia

(Resolution No. 260317)

RESOLUTION

Recognizing April 2026 as School Library Month in the City of Philadelphia.

WHEREAS, School Library Month is observed each April as the American Association of School Librarians' national celebration of school librarians and school libraries, and serves to highlight the essential role that strong school libraries play in transforming learning; and

WHEREAS, School libraries help students develop literacy, a love of reading, critical thinking, research ability, digital and media literacy, and the lifelong habits of informed citizenship that are necessary for success in school, work, and civic life; and

WHEREAS, School librarians are uniquely trained educators who support classroom instruction, guide students in evaluating information, help young people navigate an increasingly complex media environment, and ensure that students can access books, resources, and ideas that reflect both their needs and their communities; and

WHEREAS, In Philadelphia, advocates, educators, families, and community partners have continued to call attention to the importance of restoring and strengthening school library access for all students; and

WHEREAS, According to advocacy materials citing 2023–2024 NCES data, the School District of Philadelphia has the equivalent of only three full-time certified librarians serving 220 schools and 117,907 students; and

WHEREAS, The scarcity of school library staffing in Philadelphia underscores the urgency of ensuring that every child, in every zip code, has access to books, inquiry-based learning, information literacy instruction, and a welcoming library space staffed by qualified professionals; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA, Hereby recognizes April 2026 as School Library Month in the City of Philadelphia and affirms this City's commitment to educational equity, student literacy, intellectual curiosity, and the vital work

City of Philadelphia

RESOLUTION NO. 260317 continued

performed every day by school librarians, library staff, teachers, principals, caregivers, and literacy advocates.

City of Philadelphia

RESOLUTION NO. 260317 continued

CERTIFICATION: This is a true and correct copy of the original Resolution, Adopted by the Council of the City of Philadelphia on the sixteenth day of April, 2026.

Kenyatta Johnson
PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL

Elizabeth McCollum
CHIEF CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Introduced by: Councilmember Young

Sponsored by: Councilmembers Young, Phillips, Gilmore Richardson,
Gauthier, Thomas, Jones, Landau, Lozada, Brooks, Harrity,
O'Rourke, Driscoll, Squilla and Ahmad