

October 15, 2019

**RESOLUTION No. 5976**

Resolution to Designate October 2019 as Dyslexia Awareness Month

**RECITALS**

- A. Dyslexia is defined as an unexpected difficulty in reading for an individual who is expected to be a better reader;
- B. Dyslexia is a difficulty in identifying or sequencing the individual sounds of spoken language, which affects the ability of an individual to speak, read, spell, and often learn a language;
- C. Dyslexia is the most common learning disability and affects 80 to 90 percent of all individuals with a learning disability;
- D. An individual with dyslexia may have weakness in decoding or reading fluency and may have strength in higher level cognitive functions, such as reasoning, critical thinking, concept formation, or problem solving;
- E. Great progress has been made in understanding dyslexia on a scientific level, including the epidemiology, cognitive and neurobiological bases of dyslexia;
- F. Effective reading instruction for all children and screening to identify students at risk for dyslexia, as well as supplemental reading support for students at risk, is critical to prevent reading problems;
- G. Early diagnosis of dyslexia is critical to ensure individuals with dyslexia receive focused, evidence based intervention. Correct identification and intervention provides students with dyslexia self-awareness and self-empowerment. Provision of necessary accommodations and instruction help to ensure school and life success.

**RESOLUTION**

The Portland Public Schools Board of Education recognizes that dyslexia has significant educational implications that must be addressed; and designates October 2019 as "Dyslexia Awareness Month".