State of New York

Executive Chamber

Proclamation

Whereas, New York State values and commends the steadfast leadership of school principals, building administrators, program directors, and dedicated staff who serve as devoted stewards of the physical, mental, and emotional well-being of our students in an ever-changing and complex world; and

Whereas, these exemplary leaders embody a multitude of essential roles—serving as educational visionaries, community builders, public spokespersons, mediators, budget analysts, facility managers, and role models—leveraging their expertise to elevate student achievement and enhance learning environments; and

Whereas, landmark educational research reveals that school leadership stands second only to classroom instruction as the most enduring bedrock of student learning and academic excellence; and

Whereas, school principals contribute to scholastic progress by directly engaging with educators through insightful classroom observations, mentorship, growth-oriented feedback, and collaborative data analysis; and

Whereas, New York State proudly stands as an unwavering partner to school principals, empowering administrators through transformative initiatives like the phone-free schools policy to cultivate thriving, distraction-free educational settings where young minds may truly flourish; and

Whereas, adept principals increase teacher retention by providing vital resources to educators at every stage of their professional journey, nurturing shared learning communities, and safeguarding their valuable instructional time and professional agency; and

Whereas, we place immense value upon the leadership of school principals and all integral members of the scholastic community for their monumental contributions to our youth and families, our cherished learning institutions, and the noble profession of education;

Now, Therefore, I, Kathy Hochul, Governor of the State of New York, do hereby proclaim October 2026, as

PRINCIPALS MONTH

in the Empire State.

Given under my hand and the Privy Seal of the State at the Capitol in the City of Albany this first day of September in the year two thousand twenty-six.

Kathy Hochul

Governor

Secretary to the Governor
Karen Persichilli Keogh