

NEWS

Public Policy & Management Center
at Wichita State University
www.Wichita.edu/PPMC

Contact
Abigail Hammack
abigail.hammack@wichita.edu
work: (316) 978-6688
cell: (254) 717-5447

November Declared City of Wichita, Sedgwick County Reads to Preschoolers Month

WICHITA, KS - The City of Wichita declared November as **Wichita Reads to Preschooler Month** during the [City Council meeting](#) on Tuesday, and Sedgwick County officially declared November as **Sedgwick County Reads to Preschoolers Month** during the [County Commission meeting today](#).

These proclamations coincide with Kansas Reads to Preschoolers Month. The Wichita Literacy Coalition (WLC) requested the proclamations locally in order to highlight the importance of Kindergarten readiness and encourage everyone to read to the “littles” in their life.

- 63% of Kansas 4th graders are not reading at grade level
- 64% of Kindergarten through 3rd grade students are at risk

The City of Wichita and Sedgwick County value improving Kindergarten readiness, which improves high school graduation rates and positively impacts workforce readiness and the holistic success of the Kansas economy.

"Kansas Reads to Preschoolers annually celebrates the power of reading to young children," said Jamie Prothro, Director of Wichita Libraries and WLC Member. "Spending just 5 minutes reading will compel their imaginations, build pre-reading skills, and plant seeds for their future successes."

Larry Daniels (WLC Executive Director), Elizabeth Ewers (PPMC Graduate Assistant), and members of the coalition were there at both Council and Commission meetings to accept the honor.

For more information about WLC, visit www.wichita.edu/wlc.

Please share with your audiences to encourage reading, learning, and our community's overall success.

About the Wichita Literacy Coalition

The Wichita Literacy Coalition (WLC), comprised of various stakeholders, exists to create and implement a collective plan to increase Kindergarten readiness for children and families experiencing the greatest need. The WLC's mission is to support community partners in their efforts to create equitable access to awareness, education, and wellness services, establishing a foundation of Kindergarten readiness for children from birth to age five.

About the Public Policy & Management Center

The Public Policy & Management Center (PPMC) convenes the Wichita Literacy Coalition. The [PPMC](#) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization that works with the public, nonprofit, and private sectors to conduct research, evaluation, training, and community development. Our purpose is to enhance public service to best serve your community. The PPMC is proud of its 60-year history and continues its long-standing mission of applied research and community service, employing subject matter experts and passionate public servants to increase leaders' capacity and ensure excellence in public service.

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