

Proclamation

“Honoring International Literacy Day”

WHEREAS: International Literacy Day will be observed on September 8, 2009, and the observance of International Literacy Day reminds the international community of the status of literacy and adult learning globally; and

WHEREAS: Despite many and varied efforts, literacy remains an elusive target whereby approximately seven hundred seventy-six million adults lack minimum literacy skills world wide. One in five adults is not literate, with two-thirds of the illiterate being women; and

WHEREAS: With approximately seventy-five million children not in school, millions do not attend class regularly and eventually drop out, resulting in a staggering 1.3 million plus adults in Georgia who do not have a high school diploma or GED; and

WHEREAS: Children of uneducated or undereducated parents have a higher chance of becoming high school dropouts, thus creating a cycle of illiteracy for their future and future generations; and

WHEREAS: Illiteracy can be eliminated by increased public awareness and intensive citizen support of community resources that address literacy needs such as the Adult Education Programs, The Certified Literate Community Programs, and GED Testing; and

WHEREAS: The Adult Literacy Program of Griffin Technical College, the Certified Literate Community Program of Griffin Spalding County, and GED Testing in Griffin Spalding County have proven, through their literacy efforts, to be effective tools that can reduce the illiteracy rate in our community to an historical low. The outstanding programs serve thousands of adults, improving their academics and graduating 500-600 adult students per year, creating a more productive future for each adult graduate and for our community.

THEREFORE: The Board of Commissioners of Spalding County joins the celebration and encourages all citizens to support the Adult Literacy Programs, Certified Literate Community Programs, and GED Testing in their literacy efforts to become a “Fully Literate Community, State, and Nation,” and do hereby proclaim, Nunc Pro Tunc, that September 8, 2009 shall be honored as *International Literacy Day*.

Edward Goss, Jr., Chairman

William P. Wilson, Jr., County Clerk