



# Proclamation

THE STATE OF TEXAS           §  
COUNTY OF COMAL           §  
CITY OF NEW BRAUNFELS      §

**WHEREAS**, in 2002, the Harvard School of Public Health and Mentor: The National Mentoring Partnership created National Mentoring Month; and

**WHEREAS**, the goals of National Mentoring Month are to raise awareness of mentoring, recruit individuals to mentor, and encourage organizations to integrate quality in mentoring into their efforts; and

**WHEREAS**, a mentor is a caring, consistent presence who devotes time to a young person, helping that young person discover personal strength and achieve their potential through a structured and trusting relationship; and

**WHEREAS**, quality mentoring encourages positive choices, promotes self-esteem, supports academic achievement and introduces young people to new ideas, and is shown to be effective in combating school violence, discipline problems, substance abuse, incarceration and truancy; and

**WHEREAS**, research shows that young people who were at risk for not completing high school but who had a mentor were 55 percent more likely to be enrolled in college, 81 percent more likely to report participating regularly in sports or extracurricular activities, more than twice as likely to say they held a leadership position in a club or sports team, and 78 percent more likely to volunteer regularly in their communities; and

**WHEREAS**, youth development experts agree that mentoring is critical to the social, emotional and cognitive development of youth, helping them navigate the path to adulthood more successfully and set career goals; and

**WHEREAS**, despite these benefits, one in three youth will reach age 19 without a mentor – constituting a “mentoring gap” that demonstrates a need for collaboration and resources, even though mentoring is a proven cost-effective investment: for every hour invested in mentoring, there is a \$24 return to society while also strengthening the fiber of our communities.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, BARRON CASTEEL**, Mayor of the City of New Braunfels, do hereby proclaim the month of January 2019 as

## **MENTORING MONTH**

and recognize Communities in Schools of South Central Texas for their continued support, and call upon public officials, business and community leaders, and educators to encourage the citizens to observe this month with appropriate ceremonies, activities, and programs.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of New Braunfels to be affixed on this the 14<sup>th</sup> day of January 2019.

**CITY OF NEW BRAUNFELS**

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**BARRON CASTEEL, Mayor**