

# SCHOOL BOARD OF CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA

## PROCLAMATION # 24-13



**WHEREAS**, the importance of school social work through the inclusion of school social work programs and services has been recognized in the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.) and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1400 et seq.); and

**WHEREAS**, school social workers in Clay County are especially skilled in identifying and providing services to students who face serious challenges to school success, including poverty, disability, discrimination, abuse, addiction, bullying, loss of a loved one, and other barriers to learning; and

**WHEREAS**, school social workers are needed more now than at any time in recent memory, as more students are struggling with mental and behavioral health disorders, with nearly 1 in 6 children from 2 to 8 years old (17.4 percent) having a diagnosed mental, behavioral, or developmental disorder; and

**WHEREAS**, individuals who wish to access community mental health services often find such services unavailable, inaccessible, or inadequate; and

**WHEREAS**, school social workers maintain knowledge of school culture and school climate which are necessary for responsible school safety planning; and

**WHEREAS**, school social workers serve as vital members of a school's education team, playing a central role in creating partnerships between the home, school, and community to ensure student academic success; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the School Board of Clay County, Florida, does hereby recognize the vital role school social workers play in the lives of students, and extend greetings and best wishes to all observing March 3-9, 2024 as School Social Work Week.

**Duly adopted and approved by the School Board of Clay County, Florida, this 7th day of March, 2024.**

### **ATTEST:**

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David S. Broskie  
Superintendent of Schools  
Clay County, Florida

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Ashley Gilhousen, School Board Chair