

# The State of Washington



## Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, education support professionals are involved in nearly every aspect of education – maintaining buildings and grounds, preparing and serving meals, keeping school facilities clean and orderly, assisting in the classroom, providing over 60 percent of all instructional hours to special education, English Language Learners, and opportunity gap students, performing and conducting research activities, providing information technology and media services, administrative support functions, and safe transportation, creating a secure and healthy environment, and many other specialized services; and

**WHEREAS**, these dedicated individuals, who are the backbone of our public education system, deserve recognition and thanks for the outstanding work they do for this state, their communities, and the students enrolled in Washington's public schools, colleges, and universities; and

**WHEREAS**, there are over 62,000 education support professionals working with, and helping students in, Washington's universities, colleges, and public schools; and

**WHEREAS**, education support professionals are instrumental in fulfilling the state's responsibility to educate all students; and

**WHEREAS**, by supporting the learning environment, education support professionals are crucial partners with teachers, parents, administrators, and school boards;

**NOW THEREFORE**, I, Jay Inslee, Governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim March 8-12, 2021, as

### *Education Support Professionals Week*

in Washington, and I urge all people in our state to join me in this special observance.

Signed this 24<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2021

Governor Jay Inslee

