



## STATE of MINNESOTA

# Proclamation

- WHEREAS: Schoolyard gardens provide a real-life opportunity for educators to teach students about planning, planting, nurturing, and harvesting; and
- WHEREAS: Schoolyard gardens offer students a sense of place and responsibility, and provide a launching pad for learning more about agriculture and natural systems; and
- WHEREAS: Schoolyard gardens broaden students' knowledge of their environment in the time of climate change, and
- WHEREAS: Schoolyard gardens increase students' knowledge of and interest in eating fresh fruits and vegetables; and
- WHEREAS: Over 150 Minnesota schoolyard gardens have been developed in recent years to allow for hands-on outdoor learning experience, aligned with Minnesota PreK-12 Academic standards; and
- WHEREAS: Minnesota is fortunate to have numerous educators who lend their skills and time to educate students in the schoolyard garden; and
- WHEREAS: The Minnesota Schoolyard Gardens Coalition was formed to sustain and grow the school garden movement, effectively bringing together garden stakeholders from PreK-12 and higher education, communities, state agencies, non-profit organizations, and master gardeners; and
- WHEREAS: The Minnesota Green Schools Coalition is an active network of the state's strongest advocates leading the charge for creating healthy learning environments for children while inspiring environmental stewardship in all ages.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim the week of May 23-27, 2016, as:

## SCHOOLYARD GARDENS PLANTING WEEK

in the State of Minnesota.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this 29<sup>th</sup> day of February.

  
GOVERNOR



SECRETARY OF STATE