

# PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS,** an alarming number of Missoula students – as many as 20-30 percent – drop out of high school or fail to graduate; and
- WHEREAS,** students dropping out affect us all, because students are our community’s future; and
- WHEREAS,** the young people in school today will make up the work force of tomorrow, and an educated workforce is essential to Missoula’s economic development and long-term success; and
- WHEREAS,** students who drop out of school are more likely to experience higher levels of unemployment, poverty, incarceration, and poor health than those who graduate from high school; and
- WHEREAS,** the Missoula community has demonstrated time and again concern for its young people and success in developing effective strategies to address community challenges; and
- WHEREAS,** Graduation Matters Missoula is a lasting, community-wide initiative developed by business, community and education leaders, as well as students themselves, designed to help young people stay and succeed in school; and
- WHEREAS,** Graduation Matters Missoula will be launched in January 2010;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I,** John Engen, Mayor of the City of Missoula, in the State of Montana, do hereby proclaim January 19, 2010, as

## GRADUATION MATTERS MISSOULA DAY

in Missoula, Montana.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF,** I have hereunto set my hand and caused the great seal of the City of Missoula, in the State of Montana, to be affixed at Missoula, Montana, this 4<sup>th</sup> day of January in the year two thousand ten.

John Engen  
Mayor

