
HONORARY PROCLAMATION

**National Adult Education & Family Literacy Week
(September 16-20, 2024)**

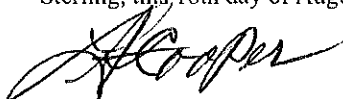
- WHEREAS, more than 43 million Americans can't read or write at the most basic level while 62.7 million lack basic math skills, as well as the credentials and skills necessary to succeed in post-secondary education; and
- WHEREAS, in Connecticut there are 322,234 (11.9%) adults, 18 and older, without a high school credential; and
- WHEREAS, in Connecticut there are 120,195 adults, 18 and older, who do not speak English well or at all; and
- WHEREAS, in 2023-2024 Connecticut's adult education programs provided support for just under 30,000 adult learners and
- WHEREAS, according to the National Reporting System, in 2023 there were 12,202 adults 18-64 without a high school diploma and unemployed, 70,518 not in the labor force and 40,572 on public assistance and
- WHEREAS, nationally every year, one in three young adults drops out of high school; and in Connecticut it is estimated that over 119,000 youth (18-24) have left school over the last three years and
- WHEREAS, Adult Education programs contribute to solving these challenges by helping Americans move along the continuum in their educational journey to achieve basic skills and get prepared for career and college; and
- WHEREAS, Adult Education in Connecticut offers low cost, high value programs in every community focused on providing a high school credential, citizenship training, English as a Second Language, Digital Literacy and Workforce Development skills designed to elevate the economic self-sufficiency of our citizens; and
- WHEREAS, Connecticut celebrates Adult Education and Family Literacy Week as a proud participant in the national Educate & Elevate Campaign which helps our citizens learn about all of their Adult Education options to attain their professional and personal goals.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Lincoln A. Cooper, of the great town of Sterling, proclaim September 16 - 20, 2024 as

ADULT EDUCATION AND FAMILY LITERACY WEEK

in the Town of Sterling, Connecticut.

GIVEN under my hand and the
Executive Seal of the Town of
Sterling, this 18th day of August,



Lincoln A. Cooper
First Selectman, Town of Sterling