

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

- WHEREAS,** social emotional learning (SEL) is the process through which all young people and adults acquire and apply the knowledge, skills, and awareness necessary to develop healthy identities, manage emotions, establish and maintain supportive relationships, feel and show empathy for others, achieve personal and collective goals, and make responsible decisions; and
- WHEREAS,** SEL competencies develop throughout our lives and are essential to success in our schools, workplaces, homes, and communities and allow individuals to contribute meaningfully to society; and
- WHEREAS,** SEL can be taught and developed throughout childhood, adolescence, and beyond; and
- WHEREAS,** the COVID-19 pandemic and corresponding mitigation measures have negatively impacted the social, emotional and academic development and overall well-being of both youth and adults in our communities; and
- WHEREAS,** emerging evidence suggests that a significant portion of young people in Vermont, and across the United States, are experiencing increases in mental illness, substance use, and other adverse impacts related to the pandemic; and
- WHEREAS,** the Agency of Education and the Agency of Human Services have been directed to collaborate on metrics to measure the social, emotional, and academic impacts of the pandemic, and to track the effectiveness and pace of policies to reverse these impacts; and
- WHEREAS,** Vermont families, schools and communities must be engaged to reverse the negative impacts of the pandemic on our children and to enhance the overall strength, depth, and pace of acquisition of SEL competencies; and
- WHEREAS,** focusing on SEL has valuable long-term social and economic benefits to society.

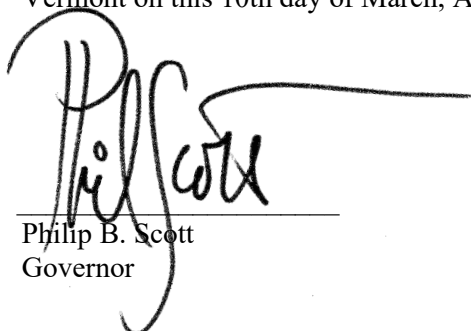
NOW, THEREFORE, I, Philip B. Scott, Governor, hereby proclaim March 11, 2022 as

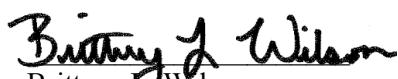
SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING AWARENESS DAY

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 10th day of March, A.D. 2021.




Philip B. Scott
Governor


Brittney L. Wilson
Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs