


City of Auburn
GEORGIA READS DAY PROCLAMATION #02-025

- WHEREAS:** Literacy is not just an education issue but an economic, workforce, and quality of life issue. It is also a predictor of future educational achievement, economic status, and lifelong health and well-being.
- WHEREAS:** In 2024, 62% of Georgia third graders did not read proficiently, and research shows that children who are proficient readers by the end of third grade are four times more likely to graduate from high school than their peers who are not reading on grade level.
- WHEREAS:** The General Assembly recognized the importance of literacy skills with the passage of two bills in 2023: SB 211, which created the Georgia Council on Literacy, and HB 538, which requires comprehensive education reforms for reading instruction in the science of reading.
- WHEREAS:** Understanding that collaborative efforts and strategic partnerships must be undertaken to effectively address literacy issues, the Georgia Municipal Association (GMA) and its nonprofit organization, Georgia City Solutions, members of the Georgia General Assembly, and football champion now turned children's author, Malcolm Mitchell, partnered with the Georgia Council on Literacy to launch "Georgia Reads" in 2024.
- WHEREAS:** Libraries are foundational to education, imagination, and opportunity, offering everything from early literacy programs to digital tools that support lifelong learning and personal growth and September is also Library Card Sign Up Month.
- WHEREAS:** September 22, 2025, marks a date when all Georgians are encouraged to create awareness about the importance of reading and encourage community partnerships to promote future literacy improvements.
- WHEREAS:** Together we can improve Georgia's economic vitality one book at a time.
- THEREFORE:** I, Rick Roquemore, do hereby proclaim September 22, 2025 as Auburn **READS DAY** and encourage all residents, businesses, and community partners to help promote and elevate literacy as a community priority.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 11th day of September, 2025.

 Rick Roquemore, Mayor