WHEREAS, Libraries play an important role in the education and development of early reading skills for children by offering pre-school story times and summer reading programs that encourage the development of the reading habit that will benefit their personal and professional lives for a lifetime; and

WHEREAS, Libraries bridge the digital divide by providing a full range of information and services thereby serving the educational and developmental needs of students of all ages, from early literacy, to homework assistance, to GED classes; and

WHEREAS, Libraries continue to transform and expand their services in ways that meet the needs of the communities they serve by creating inclusive spaces and developing diverse collections for children and people of all backgrounds to connect and learn together; and

WHEREAS, Libraries open a world of infinite possibilities through resources and services to give students the tools they need to succeed in school and beyond and to help all people pursue their passions; and

WHEREAS, A library card is the most important school supply of all as it provides the first step towards academic achievement and lifelong learning; and

WHEREAS, Library Card Sign-Up Month is observed annually each September to encourage education and life-long learning.

NOW, therefore, I, Steve Allender, Mayor of Rapid City, South Dakota, do hereby proclaim September 2019 as

Library Card Sign-Up Month

In Rapid City, South Dakota and encourage everyone to sign up for their own library card today and continue, or begin, their pursuit of academic achievement and lifelong learning.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I do hereby affix my official signature and the Official Seal of the City of Rapid City, South Dakota, on this 3rd day of September, 2019.

Steve Allender, Mayor
Rapid City, South Dakota