



WAUBONSEE COMMUNITY COLLEGE NAW PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, National Apprenticeship Day raises awareness of the vital role Registered Apprenticeship plays as a proven and industry-driven training model and as a key strategy to improving job quality, and creating access to good-paying, family-sustaining jobs for all, starting with youth and young adults; and

WHEREAS, Waubonsee Community College recognizes the urgent need to prepare our students to address some of our nation's pressing workforce challenges such as rebuilding our country's infrastructure, addressing critical supply chain demands, supporting a clean energy workforce, modernizing our cybersecurity response, and responding to care economy issues; and

WHEREAS, Registered Apprenticeship programs enable employers to develop and train their future workforce while offering career seeking students affordable pathways to high-paying, good, quality jobs; and

WHEREAS, Waubonsee Community College recognizes the role of Registered Apprenticeship in expanding opportunities in our workforce that are inclusive of individuals who have been historically underserved, marginalized, and adversely affected by persistent poverty and inequality, thus providing a path for all qualified individuals, including women, youth, people of color, rural and tribal communities, justice-involved individuals and individuals with disabilities, to become apprentices and contribute to America's industries; and

WHEREAS, Waubonsee Community College recognizes the pivotal role educators, school counselors, and educational institutions serve in not only bringing awareness of Registered Apprenticeship opportunities to students and parents, but also serving as training providers, sponsors, and intermediaries.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ne'Keisha Stepney, Assistant Provost of Workforce Development at Waubonsee Community College, call upon Waubonsee Community College District Employers to recognize the value of Registered Apprenticeship, and to promote industry awareness and expansion on National Apprenticeship Day: April 30, 2025.

IN SUPPORT,

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Ne'Keisha Stepney

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Assistant Provost of Workforce Development
Waubonsee Community College