

Columbus, Georgia
Georgia's First Consolidated Government

Proclamation

WHEREAS, Bullying has become a major issue in our community; and

WHEREAS, Every seven minutes a child is bullied and intervention occurs only 4% of the time with adults, 11% of the time with peers and, in an alarming 85% of the time, no interventions transpire; however, when bystanders do intervene, bullying stops within 10 seconds over half of the time; and

WHEREAS, Over 14 million American kids will be bullied this year making it the most common form of violence experienced by children; schools harbor approximately 2.1 million bullies and 2.7 million of the bully's victims; and

WHEREAS, The "No Bully Zone Campaign" is a collective effort of concerned community leaders and stakeholders that are interested in improving the quality of education for kids in and around Muscogee County because bullying has become a real factor contributing to the deterioration of our education system; and

WHEREAS, Specifically, the "NO BULLY ZONE Campaign" emphasizes positive behavior intervention strategies and awareness tools for schools to encourage youth to speak up and reduce the incidence of bullying; and

WHEREAS, The coalition of willing community partners to address these issues consists of musicians, activists, young adults, victims of bullying, and others who want to use their voice to speak out against bullying because one life lost is one too many and taking a strong stand against bullying, harassment, abuse, and other kinds of emotional and physical violence is what is necessary to sustain a successful anti-bullying program; and

WHEREAS, The NO BULLY ZONE Anti-Bully Campaign has distributed a *No Bully Zone Video series* and original *Fates Fortune NO BULLY ZONE* music to Muscogee County schools, has formed an Annual Anti-bully Walk, and created innovative ways to make *No Bullying* a trend worth emulating; and

Whereas, Because of the tremendous commitment of entertainers who have given of their time and talents, namely Gabrielle Warren and Jaynia Pugh of Fates Fortune, and Michael Jackson impersonator Matthew Sanchez, the citizens of Columbus, Georgia commend the efforts of these individuals to ensure that there is no vestige of bullying perpetuated in our community.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Teresa Pike Tomlinson, Mayor of Columbus, Georgia do hereby proclaim
Tuesday, March 3, 2015 as

NO BULLY ZONE: ENTERTAINERS APPRECIATION DAY

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Official Seal of Columbus, Georgia to be affixed this third day of March, 2015.




HONORABLE TERESA PIKE TOMLINSON

MAYOR
COLUMBUS, GEORGIA