

- WHEREAS, music education is a vital part of a well-rounded academic curriculum, providing students with essential skills such as creativity, critical thinking, teamwork, and perseverance; and
- WHEREAS, Music in Our Schools Month, observed annually in March, serves as a national celebration to raise awareness about the importance of music education in schools and its lasting impact on students' personal and academic success; and
- WHEREAS, the 2025 theme for Music in Our Schools Month, "United Through Music," highlights how music serves as a powerful unifying force that connects individuals across diverse backgrounds, cultures, and experiences; and
- WHEREAS, the Southwest Washington Wind Symphony, now in its 20th Anniversary Season, is dedicated to fostering a love for symphonic band music, supporting music education, and providing free, high-quality performances for the Vancouver community; and
- WHEREAS, many of the Southwest Washington Wind Symphony musicians are current or retired music educators, exemplifying a lifelong commitment to mentoring and inspiring young musicians in our schools; and
- WHEREAS, Vancouver Public Schools and Evergreen Public Schools have received the Best Communities for Music Education Award multiple times, demonstrating the region's dedication to maintaining strong music programs that benefit thousands of students each year; and
- WHEREAS, the Southwest Washington Wind Symphony's upcoming concert on March 9, 2025, serves as a special opportunity to highlight the significance of music education and unifying power of music within our community.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Anne McEnerny-Ogle, Mayor of Vancouver, Washington, do hereby proclaim the Month of March as:

## " Music in Our Schools Month "

in the City of Vancouver and encourage all community members to recognize and celebrate the contributions of music educators, students, and organizations that enrich our community through music.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and cause the seal of the City of Vancouver to be affixed this 3rd day of March 2025.

ANNE McENERNY-OGLE, MAYOR