

DURHAM BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Proclamation

SUMMER LEARNING WEEK IN DURHAM COUNTY | 2026

- WHEREAS,** During the summer months and school breaks, children can lose what they learn and students who lose ground in one summer are more likely to also lose ground in subsequent summers, which can add up; and
- WHEREAS,** Third grade reading scores can predict academic achievement. Only 41% of Durham Public Schools third grade students are proficient in reading¹; disaggregated data show disparities by income, race, and other factors;² and
- WHEREAS,** Parents and caregivers can encourage reading gains by reading with their children and encouraging them to read independently throughout school breaks, with access to an abundance of free, high-interest books at home and in the community; and
- WHEREAS,** Public agencies, community and faith-based organizations, schools, libraries, museums, recreation centers, camps, and businesses in Durham contribute to the well-being of youth through summer programs and book access, and offer a trusted role in the education of our children; and
- WHEREAS,** Summer learning programs are proven to maintain and advance students’ academic and social/emotional growth, keep children safe and healthy during the summer, and send children back to school ready to learn; and
- WHEREAS,** Joyful summer learning experiences, including reading books at home, are a critical component of our collective effort to ensure Durham’s educational recovery; all students are ready for school and reading on grade-level by the end of third grade; and that all students grow and flourish; and
- WHEREAS,** Durham County encourages all students, parents, caregivers, and people to champion summer learning and reading to support academic achievement and well-being of every child in our county.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, I, Dr. Mike Lee, Chair and on behalf of the Durham Board of County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim July 6 - 10, 2026, as

“SUMMER LEARNING WEEK”

in Durham County and do commend this observance to all of our residents.

This 22nd day of June 2026.

Dr. Mike Lee, Chair
Durham Board of County Commissioners

