

*Official*



*Statement*

*W*hereas, the period of early adolescence (10 -15 years old) is a distinct, developmental period between childhood and full adolescence; and

*W*hereas, this period needs to be better understood and its importance recognized; and

*W*hereas, young adolescents between the ages of approximately 10- 15 years old undergo more extensive physical, mental, social, moral, and emotional changes than at any other time of life, with the possible exception of infancy; and

*W*hereas, the attitudes and values young adolescents develop during these formative years largely determine their later behavior; and

*W*hereas, middle level educators possess a unique set of skills for nurturing and educating young adolescents; and

*W*hereas, parents continue as primary role models and guides, even as young adolescents give increased attention to peer groups; and

*W*hereas, the community itself is also a "classroom" in which young adolescents learn many lessons; and

*W*hereas, much valuable information and research about this important age group now exists and should be circulated;

*T*herefore, be it resolved that October be declared the

## *Month Of the Young Adolescent in Connecticut*

and

*Be* it further resolved that middle level leaders in the Connecticut join their colleagues from around the world by extending their knowledge about these critical years and undertaking actions that will support the healthy development of young adolescents.

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