PROCLAMATION
SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNITION MONTH
JANUARY 2008

WHEREAS, Providing for the education of Michigan's school-aged children is a fundamental duty of state government, as stated in Article VIII, Section 2, of the Michigan Constitution of 1963; and

WHEREAS, The education of our youth is the foundation upon which the economic, social and intellectual capital of our state is built; and

WHEREAS, **School Board Recognition Month** is celebrated in January by 523 local and 57 intermediate school districts in Michigan, as 4,200 elected school board members are honored by their schools and communities for untiring dedication to school governance; and

WHEREAS, Our locally-elected school boards play an important and vital role in developing policies and making tough decisions on complex educational and social issues impacting the entire community; and

WHEREAS, School Board members make important decisions that affect 1.7 million Michigan children and $12 billion in educational expenditures. They preserve the core of our democracy - public education; and

WHEREAS, As Benjamin Franklin said, "An investment in knowledge pays the best interest," and our dedicated **Birmingham School Board members**, **President Michael Fenberg, Vice President Geri Rinschler, Secretary Lori Soifer, Treasurer Susan Hill, and Trustees Christopher Conti, Deborah L. Roberts and Robert Lawrence** have invested hundreds of hours on behalf of our children; and

WHEREAS, This year's theme – ***School Board Members Lead Strong*** - reflects the efforts of thousands of men and women whose actions and decisions help to shape the direction of Michigan public education and the future of our next generation so it can successfully compete in a global society; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Troy does hereby proclaim **January 2008 to be School Board Recognition Month** in the City of Troy and encourages all citizens to express sincere appreciation to the dedicated Birmingham School Board members for their work on behalf of children, youth and families.

Signed this 7th day of January 2008.