



GRAND LODGE
FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS
OF CALIFORNIA
CALIFORNIA MASONIC MEMORIAL TEMPLE
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April 1, 2010

Dear Brother:

Every year the Grand Lodge of California celebrates the fraternity's commitment to public education by proclaiming April "Public Schools Month." The 2010 theme is: **"Public Schools – the Foundation of our Democracy."**

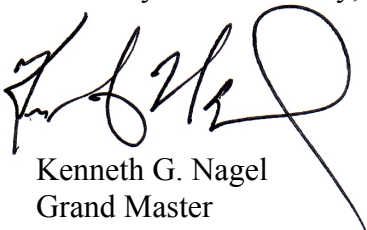
Grand Master Charles Albert Adams first recognized the need for coordinated public schools support in 1920, as schools were suffering devastating problems following World War I. Grand Master Adams issued a proclamation for Public Schools Week and requested that every Masonic lodge in California hold a community meeting to discuss the crisis.

Today the Masons of California continue our commitment to public education in a number of ways. We provide millions of dollars in college scholarships. We sponsor the California State Teacher of the Year Program, and have helped more than 50,000 California students through the Masonic Student Assistance Program. And each succeeding California grand master has continued the observance of Public Schools Week, now Public Schools Month.

This April, make an effort as a lodge to support your local schools. This can be as simple as donating school supplies or volunteering to tutor students, or you can begin a new lodge tradition by sponsoring a speech or essay contest, starting a scholarship fund, or officially "adopting" a local public school.

Freemasonry has shaped this country and the very system of democracy that we enjoy today. Our public school system is a cornerstone of that democracy. During Public Schools Month this April, we can make a lasting difference for our children, for our communities and for our futures.

Sincerely and fraternally,



Kenneth G. Nagel
Grand Master