WHEREAS; quality afterschool programs provide safe and engaging learning experiences that help students develop social, emotional, physical, and academic skills and realize their full potential; and

WHEREAS; research suggests that youth who attend afterschool programs attend school more often, do better in school, and gain important work and life skills; and

WHEREAS; programs also help support working families by ensuring kids have access to safe, engaging programming after school and contribute to the strength of communities by developing positive relationships between kids, families, schools, and community partners; and

WHEREAS; the state of Wisconsin has been proud to support afterschool and out-of-school programming and remains committed to investing in the long-term success of community- and school-based afterschool and out-of-school programming across the state; and

WHEREAS; Lights On Afterschool is a national celebration of afterschool programs that promotes the importance of quality afterschool programming in the lives of kids, families, and communities; and

WHEREAS; today, the state of Wisconsin reaffirms its commitment to doing what's best for kids and supporting access to continued learning opportunities that help kids learn and grow, close opportunity and achievement gaps, and encourage continued intergenerational success in communities across the state;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,
do hereby proclaim October 22 2026 as

LIGHTS ON AFTERSCHOOL DAY

throughout the State of Wisconsin and I commend this observance
to all our state's residents.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this 5th day of October 2026.

TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State