

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; the state of Wisconsin has provided significant leadership in the area of community involvement in the education and well-being of youth, grounded in the principles that “what’s best for kids is what’s best for the state,” and that quality afterschool programs are key to helping kids become successful adults; and

WHEREAS; afterschool programs also support working families and contribute to the strength of communities by engaging youth, families, and adults with schools and community partners to develop positive relationships; and

WHEREAS; afterschool programs have gone above and beyond to address the unique and complex academic, social, and emotional needs of students stemming from the coronavirus pandemic, continuing to provide opportunities for youth to engage in their learning and connect with caring adults and peers in a safe and supportive environment; and

WHEREAS; according to the Afterschool Alliance, nearly 25 million families nationwide report that they would enroll their child in an afterschool program if one were available, yet many programs across our state and country continue to face funding crises and operating challenges which leave many students without a safe and stimulating place to go at the end of each school day; and

WHEREAS; the state of Wisconsin has been proud to support afterschool and out-of-school programming through initiatives such as the Beyond the Classroom Grant Program, and remains committed to investing in the long-term success of community- and school-based before and after-school programming throughout 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 investing in the health and safety of students of all ages by expanding access to continued learning opportunities that will 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 20 2022 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 7<sup>th</sup> day of October 2022.



TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:



DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE, Secretary of State