

# Proclamation

by

Andy Beshear  
Governor

of the

Commonwealth of Kentucky



## *To All To Whom These Presents Shall Come:*

- WHEREAS, The citizens of the Commonwealth stand firmly committed to quality afterschool programs and opportunities because they: provide safe, challenging, and engaging learning experiences that help children develop social, emotional, physical and academic skills; support working families by ensuring their children are safe and productive after the regular school day ends; build stronger communities by involving students, parents, business leaders and adult volunteers in the lives of young people, thereby promoting positive relationships among youth, families and adults; and engage families, schools and community partners in advancing the welfare of our children; and
- WHEREAS, Afterschool programs have risen to the moment to support youth in addressing their social and academic needs as they recover from the pandemic. Afterschool programs continue to provide innovative, hands-on opportunities for youth to reengage in their learning and connect with caring adults and peers in a safe and supportive environment; and
- WHEREAS, The Commonwealth has provided significant leadership in the area of community involvement in the education and well-being of our youth, grounded in the principle that quality afterschool programs are key to helping our children become successful adults; and
- WHEREAS, Lights On Afterschool, the national celebration of afterschool programs held this year on October 20, 2022, promotes the importance of quality afterschool programs in the lives of children, families and communities; and
- WHEREAS, Many afterschool programs across the country are facing operating challenges so severe that they are forced to consider closing their doors and turning off their lights; and
- WHEREAS, The Commonwealth of Kentucky is committed to investing in the health and safety of all young people by providing expanded learning opportunities that will help close the achievement gap and prepare young people to compete in the global economy;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ANDY BESHEAR, Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, do hereby proclaim October 20, 2022, as

## LIGHTS ON AFTER SCHOOL DAY

in Kentucky, and commit our Commonwealth to engage in innovative afterschool programs and activities that ensure the lights stay on and the doors stay open for all children after school.



DONE AT THE CAPITOL, in the City of Frankfort the 29<sup>th</sup> day of September, in the year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty-Two and in the 231<sup>st</sup> year of the Commonwealth.

*Andy Beshear*

ANDY BESHEAR  
GOVERNOR

*Michael G. Adams*

Michael G. Adams  
Secretary of State