

STATE OF MICHIGAN



CERTIFICATE OF PROCLAMATION

ON BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE OF MICHIGAN,
I, Gretchen Whitmer, governor of Michigan, do hereby proclaim

October 22-28, 2023

as

LIGHTS ON AFTERSCHOOL WEEK

WHEREAS, the residents of the state of Michigan are committed to quality afterschool programs and opportunities; and,

WHEREAS, afterschool programs provide safe, challenging, and engaging learning experiences that help children develop social, emotional, physical, and academic skills; and,

WHEREAS, after the regular school day ends, working families use afterschool programs to ensure their children are safe and productive; and,

WHEREAS, these programs 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,

WHEREAS, when families, schools, and community partners promote and encourage afterschool programs, they are supporting new experiences and opportunities that help young people learn, grow, and realize their full potential and,

WHEREAS, the State of Michigan has provided significant leadership in the area of afterschool programs to support the education and well-being of our youth, including record investments to expand access to additional afterschool learning support; and,

WHEREAS, Lights On Afterschool, the national celebration of afterschool programs, held this year on October 22-28, 2023 promotes the importance of quality afterschool programs in the lives of children, families, and communities; and,

WHEREAS, 25 million families report that they would enroll their child in an afterschool program if one is available; for every child in a program, four are waiting to get in; 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 Michigan Afterschool Partnership is committed to investing in the health and safety of all young people by providing expanded learning opportunities that help our children learn and grow while helping them develop the skills essential for success in life and work;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Gretchen Whitmer, governor of Michigan, do hereby proclaim October 22-28, 2023, as Lights on Afterschool Week in Michigan.



Gretchen Whitmer

Gretchen Whitmer

Governor

