

# Keeping the Lights On After School: A Proclamation

WHEREAS, the citizens of **Donnelly, Idaho** stand firmly committed to quality afterschool programs and opportunities because they:

- Provide safe and engaging learning experiences that help children realize their full potential.
- Support working families by ensuring their children are safe and productive when they are out of their classrooms.
- 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.
- Engage families, schools, and community partners in advancing the welfare of our children.

WHEREAS, afterschool programs provide critical support for the academic growth and well-being of youth and offer new experiences and opportunities that help young people learn and grow. Afterschool programs provide innovative, hands-on opportunities for youth to engage in learning and connect with caring adults and peers in a safe and supportive environment. These supports are all the more important today, in the wake of the pandemic.

WHEREAS, the **City of Donnelly** 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.

WHEREAS, *Lights On Afterschool*, the national celebration of afterschool programs held this year on October 26th, 2023, promotes the importance of quality afterschool programs in the lives of children, families, and communities.

WHEREAS, nearly 25 million families report that they would enroll their child in an afterschool program if one were available; for every child in a program, four are waiting to get in.

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.

WHEREAS, the **City of Donnelly** 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.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that I, **Susan Dorris, Mayor of Donnelly** do hereby proclaim **October 26th, 2023** as "*Lights On Afterschool Day*;" AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Mayor enthusiastically endorses *Lights On Afterschool* and commits our City to engage in innovative afterschool programs and activities that ensure the lights stay on and the doors stay open for all children after school.



Susan Dorris, Mayor



Lori Clemens, City Clerk

