

# Proclamation

## by Governor Patrick Morrisey

- Whereas,** the citizens of West Virginia stand firmly committed to quality afterschool programs and opportunities; and
- Whereas,** afterschool programs provide critical support for children and youth, offering them new experiences and opportunities, along with hands-on learning, that help them learn and grow; and
- Whereas,** youth who attend afterschool programs attend school more often, do better in school, and gain important work and life skills; and
- Whereas,** West Virginia is committed to the education and well-being of our youth and recognizes that quality afterschool programs prepare our children to become successful adults and help our communities thrive; and
- Whereas,** Lights On Afterschool, the national celebration of afterschool programs held this year on October 22, 2026, promotes the importance of quality afterschool programs for our children, families, and communities; and
- Whereas,** the demand for afterschool programs continues to grow; for every child in a program, four are waiting to get in; and
- Whereas,** many afterschool programs face operating challenges so severe that they are forced to consider closing their doors and turning off their lights; and
- Whereas,** West Virginia is committed to providing expanded learning opportunities that help our children learn, grow, and develop the skills essential for success in life and work.

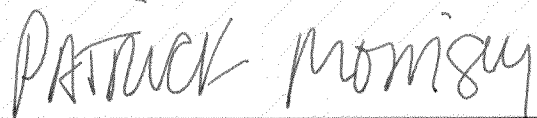
**Now, Therefore,** Be it Resolved that I, Patrick Morrisey, Governor of the Great State of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim ***October 22, 2026***, as:

### ***Lights On Afterschool Day***

in the Mountain State and encourage all citizens to join me in observance.

**In Witness Whereof,** I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of West Virginia to be affixed.

**Done** at the Capitol, City of Charleston, State of West Virginia, this the Twenty-Second Day of September, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-Six, and in the One Hundred Sixty-Fourth Year of the State.



***Patrick Morrisey***  
Governor

***By the Governor:***



***Kris Warner***  
Secretary of State