



# City of Bellevue | Proclamation

- Whereas:** Quality after-school programs and opportunities provide:
- Safe, challenging and engaging learning experiences that help children develop social, emotional, physical and academic skills.
  - Support working families by ensuring 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 while engaging families, schools and community partners in advancing the welfare of our children; and
- Whereas:** The Boys & Girls Clubs of Bellevue, the Bellevue Family YMCA, Bellevue School District, City of Bellevue, Kids Quest Museum, the King County Library System, Pacific Science Center @ Mercer Slough, Samena Club and many other non-profit and private service providers provide quality after-school programs and activities year-round that help children become successful adults; and
- Whereas:** *Lights On Afterschool*, the national celebration of after-school programs held this year on Thursday, Oct. 24, 2019, promotes the importance of quality after-school programs in the lives of children, families and communities; and
- Whereas:** More than 28 million children in the U.S. have parents who work outside the home, and 15.1 million children have no place to go after school; and
- Whereas:** Many after-school programs across the country are facing funding shortfalls so severe that they are being forced to close their doors and turn off their lights; and
- Whereas:** The City of Bellevue 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,** John Chelminiak, Mayor of the City of Bellevue, Washington, and on behalf of its City Council, do hereby proclaim the **24th of October 2019** as:

## **LIGHTS ON AFTERSCHOOL DAY**

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Bellevue enthusiastically endorses Lights On Afterschool and encourages our community to engage in innovative after-school programs and activities that ensure the lights stay on and the doors stay open for all children after school.

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John Chelminiak, Mayor  
City of Bellevue