

Proclamation No. 16-0989 Celebrating Denver afterschool programs and the 2016 Annual National Lights on Afterschool Day

WHEREAS, the Denver City Council recognizes that afterschool programs make a lifelong difference for kids and their parents; and

WHEREAS, students who regularly attend high-quality afterschool programs benefit in terms of academic performance, social and emotional learning, and health and wellness; and

WHEREAS, quality afterschool programs provide students with access to academic support, music, arts, sports, leadership development, conflict resolution, and more; building many important 21st Century skills that inspire increased confidence and make connections to future education and career opportunities; and

WHEREAS, research finds that parents miss an average of eight days of work per year due to lack of afterschool care for their children, underscoring the importance of these programs in supporting working families and the economic strength of our great city; and

WHEREAS, the Denver Afterschool Alliance connects and unites providers, school and city officials, families, funders and youth to create a long-term collaborative plan for high-quality afterschool programs citywide; and

WHEREAS, the Denver City Council pledges to support afterschool programs so that Denver's children and families have access to programs that support their success and strengthen our city.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER:

Section 1. That the Denver City Council recognizes the outstanding leadership of the Denver Afterschool Alliance in bringing together all stakeholders to create a collaborative, long-term plan for our city's afterschool system, and recognizes Thursday, October 20, 2016 as National Lights on Afterschool Day.

Section 2. That the Clerk of the City and County of Denver shall affix the seal of the City and County of Denver to this proclamation and transmit it to the Office of Children's Affairs.

_____PRESIDENT

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL October 17, 2017