

# PROCLAMATION

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

- Provide safe, challenging, and engaging learning experiences that help children develop social, emotional, physical and academic skills.
- Support working families by ensuring their 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.
- Engage families, schools and community partners in advancing the welfare of our children.

**WHEREAS**, the **Flagship Program** 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; and

**WHEREAS**, *Lights On Afterschool*, the national celebration of afterschool programs held this year on **October 24th**, promotes the importance of quality afterschool 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**, the **City of Missoula** 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 Engen, Mayor of the City of Missoula, in the State of Montana, hereby recognize the 24<sup>th</sup> day of October 2019 as;

## LIGHTS ON AFTER SCHOOL DAY

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the great seal of the City of Missoula, in the State of Montana, to be affixed at Missoula, Montana, this 21st day of October, in the year two thousand nineteen.



John Engen, Mayor