Proclamation

Office of the Mayor

Lights On Afterschool Day

WHEREAS, the City of Sunrise stands firmly committed to quality afterschool programs and opportunities because they provide safe and engaging learning experiences that help children realize their full potential, and support their academic growth and well-being. Support working families by ensuring their children are safe and productive when they are outside of their classrooms. Help address key issues in our state such as school absenteeism, learning loss recovery, and workforce development. Build stronger communities by involving students, parents, businesses, and volunteers in the lives of young people; and

WHEREAS, Afterschool provides a solid return on investment. Every $1 invested in afterschool programs saves at least $3 by increasing kids' earning potential; improving kids' performance at school and reducing crime and juvenile delinquency; 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. Youth who attend afterschool programs attend school more often, do better in school, and gain important work and life skills; and

WHEREAS, the Gary Wendt Teen Center 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 community thrive; and

WHEREAS Lights On Afterschool, the national celebration of afterschool programs held this year on October 23, 2025, 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 the City of Sunrise 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, Michael J. Ryan, Mayor of the City of Sunrise, Florida, together with the City Commissioners do hereby proclaim October 23rd, 2025 as **Lights on Afterschool Day** in the City of Sunrise enthusiastically endorses Lights On Afterschool and commits our state to engage in innovative afterschool programs and activities that ensure the lights stay on and the doors stay open for all children after school.



Witness My Hand and Official Seal of
The City of Sunrise, Florida

_____

Michael J. Ryan, Mayor