



September 26, 2012

Office of Governor Deval Patrick  
State House, Room 280  
Boston, Massachusetts 02133

SEP 27 2012

Dear Governor Patrick:

This October 18<sup>th</sup>, communities all across Massachusetts will be celebrating the 13<sup>th</sup> annual *Lights On Afterschool*, a nationwide event organized each year by the Afterschool Alliance to celebrate afterschool and out-of-school time (ASOST) programs and the educational and developmental opportunities they provide children, families and communities. These vital programs provide safe, challenging, and engaging learning experiences to help children develop the social, emotional, physical and academic skills they need to be ready for school and 21<sup>st</sup> century success.

Since 2007, we have been honored that you have issued a proclamation declaring *Lights On Afterschool Day* in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and thank you for your continuing support of this important issue. We ask that you consider recognizing *Lights On Afterschool* in Massachusetts again this year, and declare October 18, 2012, *Lights On Afterschool Day*. If your office has any questions or wants to learn more about the Afterschool Alliance or *Lights On Afterschool*, we invite you to contact Kamila Thigpen with the Afterschool Alliance at 202-347-2030, or by e-mail at [kthigpen@afterschoolalliance.org](mailto:kthigpen@afterschoolalliance.org) and to visit the *Lights On Afterschool* website at <http://www.afterschoolalliance.org/loa.cfm>.

The declaration of October 18<sup>th</sup> as *Lights On Afterschool Day* serves as an excellent opportunity to highlight Massachusetts' commitment to providing a broad range of afterschool and expanded learning opportunities before school, after school and during the summer for the children and youth who need them most. Your leadership on education and youth issues, including the Gateway Cities Education Agenda, the Commonwealth Readiness Project, the Governor's Youth Council and support for the successful passage of the After School and Out of School Time Coordinating Council (Chapter 254), has helped Massachusetts make significant progress towards providing all children, youth and families with access to high quality expanded learning opportunities. *Lights On Afterschool Day* will celebrate these tremendous efforts.

We ask that your office please review the enclosed language and contact Pete Christopher, Communications and Policy Associate, at the Massachusetts Afterschool Partnership by phone at 617-338-0045 or by email at [pchristopher@massafterschool.org](mailto:pchristopher@massafterschool.org) with any questions.

Thank you for your support of children and families.

Sincerely,

Katie Magrane, Executive Director  
Massachusetts Afterschool Partnership

234426



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Thank you for your support of children and families.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Katie Magrane', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Katie Magrane, Executive Director  
Massachusetts Afterschool Partnership