

# Governor's Proclamation



## LIGHTS ON AFTERSCHOOL DAY

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

- Provide safe and engaging learning experiences that help children realize their full potential.
- Support working families by ensuring their children are safe and productive when they are out of their classrooms.
- 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**, afterschool programs provide critical support for the academic growth and well-being of youth, and offer new experiences and opportunities that help young people learn and grow. Afterschool programs provide innovative, hands-on opportunities for youth to engage in learning and connect with caring adults and peers in a safe and supportive environment; and

**WHEREAS**, *Lights On Afterschool*, the national celebration of afterschool programs held this year on October 26, 2023, promotes the importance of quality afterschool programs in the lives of children, families and communities; and

**WHEREAS**, nearly 25 million families report that they would enroll their child in an afterschool program if one were available; for every child in a program, four are waiting to get in; and

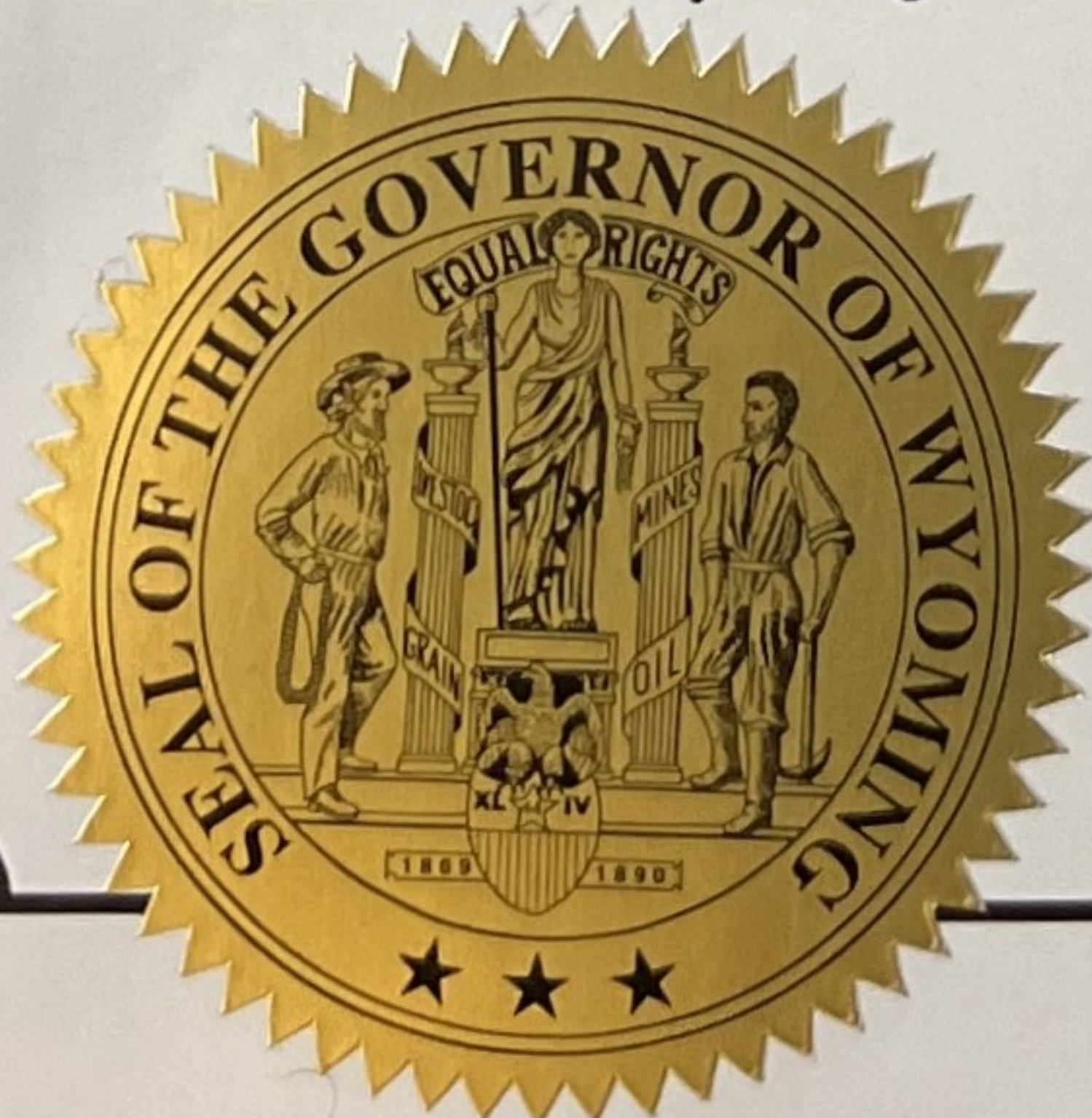
**WHEREAS**, many afterschool programs across the country are facing operating challenges so severe that they are forced to consider closing their doors and turning off their lights; and

**WHEREAS**, Wyoming is committed to investing in the health and safety of all young people by providing expanded learning opportunities that help our children learn and grow, while helping them develop the skills essential for success in life and work;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK GORDON**, Governor of the State of Wyoming, do hereby proclaim October 26, 2023 as "*Lights On Afterschool Day*,"

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the State is committed to engaging in innovative afterschool programs and activities that ensure the lights stay on and the doors stay open for all children after school.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Executive Seal of the Governor of Wyoming to be affixed this 6<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2023.



A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Mark Gordon".

The Honorable Mark Gordon  
33<sup>rd</sup> Governor of the Great State of Wyoming