



## PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, the citizens of Fort Collins stand firmly committed to quality afterschool programs and opportunities because they provide safe, challenging, engaging and fun learning experiences to help children and youth develop their social, emotional, physical, cultural and academic skills; support working families by ensuring their children are safe and productive after the regular school day ends; and build stronger communities by involving our students, parents, business leaders and adult volunteers in the lives of our young people, thereby promoting positive relationships among children, youth, families and adults; and

**WHEREAS**, the Fort Collins Boys & Girls Club 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", a national celebration of afterschool programs on October 22, 2009, promotes the critical importance of quality afterschool programs in the lives of children, their families and their communities; and

**WHEREAS**, more than 28 million children in the U.S. have parents who work outside the home, and 14.3 million children have no place to go after school; and

**WHEREAS**, many afterschool programs across the country are facing funding shortfalls so severe that they are being forced to close their doors and turn off their lights.

**NOW THEREFORE**, I, Doug Hutchinson, Mayor of the City of Fort Collins, do hereby proclaim October 22, 2009, as

### **"LIGHTS ON AFTERSCHOOL" DAY**

and encourage our community to engage 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 the seal of the City of Fort Collins this 20th day of October, A.D. 2009.

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Mayor

ATTEST:

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City Clerk