

PROCLAMATION

DISCOVER AFTERSCHOOL

WHEREAS, the School District of Palm Beach County and its stakeholders 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.
- 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.
- Engage families, schools and diverse community partners in advancing the welfare of our children.

WHEREAS, the School District of Palm Beach County and Prime Time Palm Beach County, Inc., have provided significant leadership in the areas of community involvement in the education and well-being of our youth, grounded in the principle that quality afterschool programs are key in helping our children become successful adults; and

WHEREAS, October 12, 2006, is the day of national celebration of *Lights On Afterschool*, which 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, the SDPBC serves over 19,000 students in afterschool programs throughout the District; and

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

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Superintendent and The School Board of Palm Beach County do hereby proclaim October 12, 2006, as "*Discover Afterschool! Day*"; **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this School Board enthusiastically endorses *Discover Afterschool!* and commits this District to engage in innovative afterschool programs and activities to ensure our children and youth have access to affordable, high quality afterschool programs during non-school hours.

Done this 18th day of October, two thousand six, in West Palm Beach, Florida

Arthur C. Johnson, Ph.D., Superintendent

Mr. Bill Graham, Vice-Chair

Mrs. Paulette Burdick

Dr. Sandra Richmond

Mr. Thomas Lynch, Chair

Monroe Benaim, M.D.

Mr. Mark Hansen

Debra Robinson, M.D.

