



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION

AFTERSCHOOL DAY

WHEREAS:

Afterschool and summer learning programs provide innovative, hands-on opportunities for youth to engage in their learning and connect with adults and peers in a safe and supportive environment while also supporting working families and building stronger communities; and

WHEREAS:

Afterschool and summer learning programs improve academic performance and outcomes by increasing school day attendance, reducing grade retention, and improving classroom behavior, as well as providing opportunities for mentorship, through community leaders and volunteers, and building resiliency and coping skills; and

WHEREAS:

The America After 3PM survey indicates that approximately 13% of Georgia's school-aged youth are in afterschool programs, but over 850,000 more of Georgia's youth would participate in an afterschool program if one was available in their community; and

WHEREAS:

Georgia is committed to preparing our youth for the jobs of tomorrow and afterschool and summer learning programs provide opportunities for college readiness and career exploration, especially in the areas of science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) and expanded learning opportunities that help youth gain hands-on experience and foster skills including communication, teamwork, and consensus building; and

WHEREAS:

Georgia made a historic investment in afterschool and summer learning programs via an annualized investment in the amount of \$12.5 million; and

WHEREAS:

The Georgia Department of Education partnered with the Georgia Statewide Afterschool Network to establish the Building Opportunities in Out-of-School Time (BOOST) grants program, which is anticipated to reach 50,000 youth in afterschool and 56,000 youth in summer programs, to distribute these funds to afterschool and summer learning programs utilizing evidence-based practices and whole child supports; and

WHEREAS:

Afterschool networks, like The Georgia Statewide Afterschool Network, has convened these organizations and afterschool providers from across the state for the seventh annual Afterschool Day at the Capitol to encourage lawmakers to recognize the critical role afterschool and summer learning programs play in preparing Georgia's youth for success in college, career, and life; now

THEREFORE:

I, BRIAN P. KEMP, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim February 12, 2026, as AFTERSCHOOL DAY in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 12th day of February in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty-Six.



B.P.K.

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

Laura M. Curry

CHIEF OF STAFF