

April 23, 2026

Dear City Council Members,

I am writing to express my strong support for continued funding of the After School All Stars program.

For many families, this program is not just an academic resource, it is a lifeline. It provides structured learning time, access to caring educators, and a safe place for students during the hours when parents are still at work. After School All Stars is centered on education, offering tutoring, enriching field trips, family engagement nights, and resource fairs that strengthen both students and the broader community.

I have had the privilege of working directly alongside this program at Fairfax NRRC, and I have seen firsthand the meaningful impact it has on our patrons and the surrounding community. The opportunities it creates and the support it provides have made a lasting, positive difference in the lives of many students and families.

Eliminating this program would disproportionately affect those who are already facing challenges, ultimately widening achievement gaps rather than closing them. Programs like this are essential in helping students succeed academically, build confidence, and reach their full potential while also creating a safe environment for the kids and families.

I respectfully urge you to reconsider any plans to defund this program and to explore alternative solutions that preserve this vital resource. Our students deserve every opportunity to succeed, and After School All Stars plays a key role in making that possible.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Alexis Gibson