



NEWS RELEASE
October 22, 2012

CONTACT: Gretchen Wright
202/371-1999

Fort Worth Mayor Betsy Price Joins Board of Afterschool Alliance

One of Two Big-City Mayors to Join Leading Afterschool Organization

WASHINGTON, DC – The Afterschool Alliance today announced the appointment of Fort Worth Mayor Betsy Price to its board of directors. She is one of two big-city mayors joining the board, along with Karl Dean of Nashville, Tennessee.

Price is the 44th mayor of the City of Fort Worth, elected in June 2011. She has focused her administration's efforts on fiscal responsibility, on creating a stronger economy through public/private partnerships, and on strengthening neighborhoods through faith-based and citywide health engagement initiatives. She is a strong supporter of young adults becoming civically engaged and has launched SteerFW, a group of more than 300 young citizens charged with learning about current challenges and finding solutions.

“We’re delighted to add the unique perspective of Mayor Price to our board of directors,” said Afterschool Alliance Executive Director Jodi Grant. “Mayors are among the strongest advocates for afterschool because they see first-hand the extraordinary difference that afterschool programs make in the lives of children, families and communities, and are intimately familiar with the many and varied intersections between afterschool, school, business, families, crime reduction and community. Mayor Price’s unwavering commitment to Fort Worth’s impressive afterschool programming is testimony to her commitment to our children. We’re looking forward to benefiting from her experience, commitment and wisdom.”

“It’s an honor to join the board of the Afterschool Alliance, an organization that has done so much to keep our children safe and constructively engaged after school,” said Price. “Investing in our future starts with giving every child the opportunity and tools they need to be successful in the classroom, and ultimately, in life. We are very proud of the bond between the city and the Fort Worth Independent School District. It’s a partnership that provides local children fun, healthy and education-based alternatives to staying home alone. I look forward to continuing our work on behalf of children through my association with the Afterschool Alliance.”

Since 2001, the City of Fort Worth has dedicated more than \$1.4 million annually to support afterschool programming in four school districts through partial proceeds from a one-half cent sales tax dedicated to a crime control and prevention district. The Fort Worth Independent School District agreed to jointly create Fort Worth After School, matching the city’s funding

commitment. Federal funding from the 21st Century Community Learning Centers initiative is another source of significant funding. Thus, the city's commitment has leveraged other sources of funding, allowing Fort Worth to create and sustain programs serving more than 12,000 elementary and middle school students at more than 80 campuses around the city, providing daily homework help, technology exploration, opportunities in the arts, community service projects and more.

In addition, within the past few weeks Mayor Price announced a citywide initiative aimed at reducing childhood obesity, "FitWorth, A Healthy City Initiative." The program will work to raise awareness about existing healthy activities in the city, including projects conducted by the Fort Worth schools' "FitWorth Kids" initiative. The first project is an eight-week team competition for third- through eighth-graders in which children will track their eating habits and physical activity.

Karl Dean is the sixth mayor of the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County. Elected in 2007 and re-elected in 2011, he created the Nashville After Zone Alliance, a network of afterschool providers for middle school students in the Metro region.

Price and Dean join a board that features leaders of education, industry and public policy: **Terry Peterson**, Afterschool Alliance Chairman, Director, Afterschool and Community Learning Resource Network, Charleston, South Carolina; **Lisa Lucheta**, Afterschool Alliance Vice-Chair, Principal, Torani Syrups and Flavors, San Francisco, California; **Reinaldo Llano**, Afterschool Alliance Treasurer, Director, Corporate Community Relations, Bright House Networks, Orlando, Florida; **Herb Sturz**, Afterschool Alliance Secretary, Trustee, Open Society Institute, New York, New York; **Jaemie Ballesteros Altman**, independent consultant, food and restaurant industry, San Francisco, California; The Honorable **David Cicilline**, Member of Congress, Providence, Rhode Island; **Barry Ford**, Director of Education, Advocacy & Public Affairs, United States Tennis Association, White Plains, New York; **Dr. Lucy Friedman**, President, The After-School Corporation, New York, New York; **Joan Higginbotham**, Director of Community Relations, Lowe's, Mooresville, North Carolina; **Kenneth C. Montague, Jr.**, former Secretary of Juvenile Justice, State of Maryland, Baltimore, Maryland; **Gilbert Moreno**, Senior Relationship Manager, JP Morgan Chase, NA, Houston, Texas; **Mary Peavey**, President, Peavey Electronics Corporation, Meridian, Mississippi; **Diane Rogers**, Capstone National Partners, Whitefish Bay, Wisconsin; **Jean Margaret Smith**, Vice President of Public Affairs and Administration, Nickelodeon / MTVN Kids and Family Group, New York, New York; and **Stacey Gillis Weber**, active supporter of education causes, New York, New York.

#

The Afterschool Alliance is a nonprofit public awareness and advocacy organization working to ensure that all children and youth have access to quality afterschool programs. More information is available at www.afterschoolalliance.org.