

Education
Joseph H. Mathos, Deputy Superintendent

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT OR HIS DESIGNEE TO ENTER INTO A COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT WITH SPECIAL OLYMPICS, FLORIDA, INC., BY AND THROUGH SPECIAL OLYMPICS MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FOR THE CONTINUATION OF A COLLABORATIVE PROGRAM TO PROVIDE SPORTS AND FITNESS TRAINING AND SPORTS COMPETITION OPPORTUNITIES FOR MENTALLY HANDICAPPED STUDENTS, FROM JULY 1, 2001 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2002

Authorization is requested for the Superintendent or his designee to enter into a cooperative agreement with Special Olympics, Florida, Inc., by and through Special Olympics Miami-Dade County (SOM-DC), for the continuation of a collaborative program that will provide sports and fitness training and sports competition opportunities for mentally handicapped students, from July 1, 2001 through June 30, 2002. This cooperative agreement has been in effect since 1991.

Special Olympics is an international organization that offers year-round sports training and competitive activities for mentally handicapped children and adults and develops opportunities for mentally handicapped persons to participate in school and community recreation programs. Through collaborative endeavors between Special Olympics and school districts, mentally handicapped students participate in sports and fitness training and competition events that test their newly acquired skills.

Through the proposed cooperative agreement, SOM-DC will provide two full-time staff members to coordinate the implementation of the program. Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) will provide transportation to Special Olympics activities, physical examinations for students through the M-DCPS Sports Medicine Program, staff liaison services through participating schools and the Office of Exceptional Student Education and Psychological Services, in-kind secretarial support, substitute coverage for teachers attending events, and use of equipment and duplicating services to disseminate program-related materials.

The President and CEO of Special Olympics Florida is Mr. Charles M. Castevens.

There is no exchange of funds.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami- Dade County, Florida, authorize the Superintendent or his designee to enter into a cooperative agreement with Special Olympics Florida, Inc., by and through Special Olympics Miami-Dade County, for the continuation of a collaborative program to provide sports and fitness training and sports competition opportunities for mentally handicapped students, from July 1, 2001 through June 30, 2002.

There is no exchange of funds.

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