

Antoinette Dunbar, Deputy Superintendent
Curriculum and Instruction

SUBJECT: REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT TO ENTER INTO A COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT WITH SPECIAL OLYMPICS, FLORIDA, INC., FOR THE CONTINUATION OF A COLLABORATIVE PROGRAM TO PROVIDE SPORTS AND FITNESS TRAINING AND SPORTS COMPETITION OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS WITH COGNITIVE IMPAIRMENTS, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008, THROUGH JUNE 30, 2009

COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

LINK TO DISTRICT

STRATEGIC PLAN: ACTIVELY ENGAGE FAMILY AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS TO BECOME OUR PARTNERS IN RAISING AND MAINTAINING HIGH STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT, PHYSICAL ACTIVITY, AND STUDENT HEALTH

Authorization is requested for the Superintendent to enter into a cooperative agreement with Special Olympics, Florida, Inc. (SOF), for the continuation of a collaborative program which will provide sports and fitness training and sports competition opportunities for 1,834 students with cognitive impairments, effective July 1, 2008, through June 30, 2009. 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 cognitively impaired children and adults and develops opportunities for participation in school and community recreation programs. Through collaborative endeavors between Special Olympics and school districts, eligible students participate in sports and fitness training and competition events which test their newly acquired skills.

Special Olympics, Florida, Inc., 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

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the M-DCPS Sports Medicine Program, one staff liaison, one secretarial position, substitute coverage for teachers attending events, and use of equipment and duplicating services to disseminate program-related materials. The program is evaluated through monthly program monitoring by staff from the Division of Special Education.

The Executive Director of Special Olympics Florida, Inc., is Mr. Charles M. Castevens.

There is no exchange of funds.

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami- Dade County, Florida, authorize the Superintendent to:

1. enter into a cooperative agreement with Special Olympics Florida, Inc., for the continuation of a collaborative program to provide sports and fitness training and sports competition opportunities for students with cognitive impairments, effective July 1, 2008, through June 30, 2009; and
2. extend this cooperative agreement annually for up to two additional one-year periods.

There is no exchange of funds.

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