Cherokee County School District

Agenda Request Form

Meeting Date	Agenda Item Number
August 15, 2024	Recognition Item 1

Title

Special Olympics Summer Games Gold Medalists

Requested Action

School Board Recognition of Special Olympic Summer Game Gold Medalists

Summary Explanation and Background

Cherokee County Special Olympics' flag football team won gold at the Summer Games and numerous students earned gold for individual swimming, tennis and track and field events.

CCSD Adapted PE teacher Ben Farist serves as the Cherokee County Special Olympics coordinator.

Financial Impact

N/A

Exhibits: (List)

Gold Medalists

Source of Additional Information

Mary Elizabeth Davis, PhD	770.479.1871
Barbara Jacoby	770.479.1871
Charlette Green	770.479.1871

Summer Special Olympics Gold Medal Winners

Unified teams include neurotypical peers who are called Unified Partners in the competition.

FLAG FOOTBALL
Joey Sarrica, Transition Academy
Cody West, Transition Academy
Wynn Murray, Mill Creek MS
Charlie Holderness, Creekview HS
Aiden Bailey, Creekview HS
Coach: Jamie Hunt, Clayton ES

SWIMMING
Level A Aquatics:
Stevie Eifert, R.M. Moore ES STEM Academy – 10 M Assisted
Alex Kozlowski, Dean Rusk MS – 15 M Walk
Sahasra Rajesh, Hickory Flat ES – 10 M Assisted
Bryton Rawlings-Peterson, Woodstock High School – 10 M Assisted
Colton Wagener, Liberty ES – 10 M Assisted, 15 M Floatation
Christopher Yancy, Transition Academy – 10 M Assisted, 15 M Unassisted

Level B/C Aquatics:
Xavier Baldonado, Sequoyah HS – 50 M Freestyle
Del Cannon, Transition Academy - 25 M Freestyle
Sean Ela, Mill Creek MS – 25 M Freestyle
Nicole Fox, Transition Academy – 50 M Freestyle, 25 M Backstroke
Davis Kohl, Tippens EC – 50 M Freestyle
Brayden Mays, Dean Rusk MS - 25 M Freestyle, 25 M Backstroke
Nicolle Valle, Etowah HS - 25 M Freestyle
Merritt Wilson, Transition Academy – 25 M Breaststroke

Senior Unified Relay:
Xavier Baldonado, Sequoyah HS; Del Cannon – Transition Academy; and unified partners, Leia Lankford, Woodstock HS and Brayden Spivey, Cherokee HS

Senior Traditional Relay:
Andrew Barnes, Sequoyah HS; Nicolle Valle, Etowah HS; Merritt Wilson, Transition Academy and Remy Wilson, Woodstock HS

Coaches:
Aquatics Head Coach/Coordinator: Merry Hofmeister, CCSD instructional technology specialist
Level B/C Head Coach: Jordan Hofmeister, Tippens EC teacher
Level A Head Coach: Paula Dixon, CCSD adapted music teacher
Level A Jr Coaches/Unified Partners: Emmy Mims and Madison Woodall, Woodstock HS students
Aquatics Assistant Coach: Kris Cole, Teasley MS teacher

TENNIS
Unified Doubles:
Brody Wright, Transition Academy
Unified partner, Aven Wright, Cherokee HS

TRACK & FIELD
Matthew Bek, Transition Academy — Turbo Javelin
Lyric Welch, Liberty ES – 100M and Turbo Javelin