Cherokee County School District

Agenda Request Form

Meeting Date	Agenda Item Number
August 20, 2026	Recognition Item 1

Title

Special Olympics Summer Games Gold Medalists

Requested Action

School Board Recognition of Special Olympics Summer Games Gold Medalists

Summary Explanation and Background

Our student athletes who compete with the Cherokee County Special Olympics earned gold medals at the 2026 State Summer Games recently held at Emory University!

The soccer team earned gold and student athletes earned individual gold medals in cheer, soccer, swimming, and track competitions. CCSD Adapted PE teacher Ben Farist serves as the Cherokee County Special Olympics coordinator.

Financial Impact

N/A

Exhibits: (List) — Enter URL below

List of Special Olympic Gold Medalists

Source of Additional Information — Open URL

Mary Elizabeth Davis, PhD	770.479.1871
Barbara Jacoby	770.479.1871

UNIFIED SOCCER TEAM
Brandon Ashbey of River Ridge HS, Gia DiGregorio of Creekview HS, Davis Kohl of Cherokee HS Unified Partners: Cherokee HS, Nate Weatherby; and Creekview HS, Ryan Maher and Will Maher

CHEER
Sammy Grugan of Transition Academy

SOCCER SKILLS
Will Anderson of Cherokee HS
Hadley Stavropoulos of Little River ES
CCSD Coach: CCSD Police Officer Ken Locke

SWIMMING
Aiden Carr of Etowah HS - 4x100 Traditional Relay
Stephen Eifert of Teasley MS - 4x100 Traditional Relay
Sean Ela of River Ridge HS - 4x100 Traditional Relay
Noah Gravitt of Hickory Flat ES - 10 M Assisted and 15 M Floatation
Ryan Holmes of Creekland MS - 10 M Assisted and 15 M Floatation
Aiden Kohlhepp of River Ridge HS - 25 M Backstroke
Mason Motes of Little River ES - 10 M Assisted and 15 M Floatation
Aniya Lott of Creekview HS - 25 M Freestyle,
Sahasra Rajesh of Hickory Flat ES - 10 M Assisted and 15 M Floatation
Luke Spiker of Woodstock HS - 25 M Backstroke
William Steffes of Creekview HS - 4x100 Unified Relay, 25 M Freestyle, 25 M Backstroke Nicolle Valle of Transition Academy - 4x100 Unified Relay
Colton Wagener of Teasley MS - 4x100 Traditional Relay, 25 M Freestyle
Madison Wyas of Cherokee HS - 15 M Unassisted
Unified Partners and Junior Coaches: Dean Rusk MS, Harper Anderson, Hollis Anderson, Lylah Heath, Sean Thompson; Etowah HS, Kate Dallas; Hickory Flat ES, Thad Farist; i-Grad Virtual Academy, Reilyn Wardlow; River Ridge HS, Gabriella Rezabek; and Woodstock HS, Hadley Sawyer.
CCSD Coaches: Mill Creek MS, Andrew Pullen; Teasley MS, Kris Cole and Lena Painter; and Jordan Hofmeister of Tippens EC and Merry Hofmeister of CCSD Technology and Information Services.

TRACK
Sam Bucher of Tippens EC – Turbo Javelin
Mason Peddycoart of Hickory Flat ES - 100M and 200M