

## SPECIAL OLYMPICS MAJOR LETTER PROGRAM ABC DISTRICT\*

**One of the goals of the Special Olympics School Sports Program is to have all Special Olympics athletes in grades 9-12 and/or 14-21 years of age recognized as part of the athletic community. One of the ways to achieve this is through earning major letters.**

**The criteria for a major letter is a program criteria — not a sports criteria. The criteria is district-wide.**

The athlete can only achieve one certificate, patch or major letter. Participants may earn a sport pin for each of the sports he/she participates in after a major letter is earned.

The major letter is the school varsity letter bearing the Special Olympics logo. Recognition will be awarded at the Annual Spring Sports Banquet.

Awards will be given at the discretion of the coaches.

### **Criteria for earning a Special Olympics certificate, patch, major letter and sports pin**

The athlete must:

1. Be a Freshman or 14 years of age to participate in the program.
2. Demonstrate appropriate behavior. (An agreement between the coaches and the classroom teachers determines appropriate behavior for each athlete. The coach makes the final decision regarding the behavioral criteria.)
3. Participate actively during scheduled practices and Special Olympics events.
4. Demonstrate measurable improvement.
5. Care for and return the uniforms and equipment.
6. Train and compete in at least two sports (exceptions may be made for athletes with physical limitations).

### **RECOGNITION AWARDS**

First year: **Certificate**

Second year: **Patch**

Third year: **Major Letter**

Participation after earning major letter: **Sport Pin for each sport**

\*Actual district document edited for publication.