# TO: Intermediate Unit and District Special Education Teachers

FROM: Rachele Gaun

Event Coordinators

SUBJECT: Special Olympics – Aquatics

The Aquatics Special Olympic event will take place **May 23, 2018** at Pocono Mountain West High School. The meet will begin at 10:00 a.m. with Opening Ceremonies. The meet will conclude by 1:00 p.m. Everyone is required to bring his or her own lunches. **The Letter of Intent due by April 6, 2018.** **All *Athlete Entry Forms* are due no later than May 4, 2018. Entries received after that date will not be accepted.** Please email all forms to Rachele Gaun at rgaun@ciu20.org. *It is very important that these documents are received by the timelines and legible.*

The meet will consist of Aquatics and 15 meter walk and 15 and 25 meter P.F.D (personal floatation device) races, 15 meter kickboard and 25 meter kickboard. The 15 meter walk is for those who are unable to pull up their feet from the bottom of the pool. The 15 meter P.F.D race is for those who are unable to swim in deep water or do not have the endurance to complete 25 meters. The 25 meter P.F.D. race is for those who are able to swim independently and are comfortable in deep water while wearing a flotation. All athletes entered in the aquatics races may compete in three events. Enclosed is one entry form for both male and female athletes.

When entering an athlete, *training times must be accurate* in order to properly “heat” each age group according to ability/division. ***Inaccurate or blank entries will not be accepted.*** An athlete must have participated in a ***minimum of 8 training sessions*** prior to competition. This is a SOPA (Special Olympics of PA) requirement. Documentation of training must be maintained and brought to the event.

**All athletes are required to have an updated parent permission/medical form on file with SOPA prior to competition (no more than 3 years old at the time of the event).** Please check each one for any discrepancies.Make sure they are signed by the physician and parents on the correct lines

To arrange for transportation, IU teachers are required to fill out a **Transportation Request Form at least 2 months prior to the event** and send it to the transportation department at the IU office. District classes must prepare for their own transportation. Do this as soon as possible.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at PMWHS. If you have any questions, please contact Rachele Gaun at [rgaun@ciu20.org](mailto:rgaun@ciu20.org).