

*Proclamation for
Disability History and Awareness Weeks
State Of Florida, County of Pinellas
Proclamation by the Pinellas County School Board*

WHEREAS, the Pinellas County School Board recognizes the important contributions and achievements of individuals with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, during this 2-week period, schools and students will be involved in activities to expand their knowledge, understanding and awareness of individuals with disabilities, the history of disability, and the disability rights movement; and

WHEREAS, the goals of disability history and awareness instruction include:

- (a) Better treatment for individuals with disabilities, especially for youth in our schools, and increased attention to prevent the bullying or harassment of students with disabilities.**
- (b) Encouragement to students with disabilities to develop increased self-esteem, resulting in more students with disabilities gaining pride in being an individual with a disability, obtaining postsecondary education, entering the workforce, and contributing to their communities.**
- (c) Reaffirmation of the local, state, and federal commitment to the full inclusion in society of, and the equal opportunity for, all individuals with disabilities.**

WHEREAS, this effort will bring awareness to our schools and community for the equal opportunity of all individuals with disabilities;

NOW, THEREFORE, we, the Pinellas County School Board, by virtue of the authority vested in us, do hereby proclaim the first two weeks of October as Disability History and Awareness Weeks in Pinellas County Schools, and we call on all citizens of Pinellas County to celebrate the many contributions individuals with disabilities make to Florida, to our nation, and to the world.

Peggy L. O'Shea, Chairperson

Dr. Michael A. Grego, Superintendent