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SAN DIEGO COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION

6401 LINDA VISTA ROAD SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 92111-7399 (619) 292-3500

Superintendent of Schools
Rudy M. Castruita, Ed.D.

To: Select Chief Administrative Officers
Middle School/Jr. High School Principals

Date: February 12, 1996

From: Rudy M. Castruita, County Superintendent of Schools

Re: Greater San Diego Inner-City Games Essay Contest

We are pleased to invite your students, Grades 6-8, as a select group of participants to join the first Greater San Diego Inner-City Games through participation in the educational component, an essay contest. This activity also supports the Everyone A Reader program and encourages reading by requiring all participants to have a public library card. All participants will receive a certificate by Arnold Schwarzenegger and Junior Seau, leaders of of the Inner-City Games.

The Inner-City Games began in 1991 in Los Angeles to introduce alternative lifestyles to children of the inner city by exposing them to sports and academic competitions. It encompasses several weeks of competitions in sports for youths, ages 10-18, who compete as team members or individuals representing boys' and girls' clubs, youth centers, parks and recreation centers, etc. from throughout the county. It also includes essay, dance and artwork contests.

Finalists in the Greater San Diego Inner-City Games essay contest will be awarded medals and T-Shirts. In addition, all students who submit picture books/posters will be bussed from their schools to the opening ceremony of the Inner-City Games at Jack Murphy Stadium on September 17, 1996 where we expect a crowd of 50,000. Former Olympic athletes and select Hollywood celebrities, including Arnold Schwarzenegger, will be at this ceremony. More details will be sent to schools in early June.

Only with your help will students learn about the essay contest and the opportunity to compete. Attached is detailed information on the topic and rules. Please call Florine Belanger, Instructional Support Services, at 292-3850 if you have any further questions.

The Greater San Diego Inner-City Games is sponsored and supported by the following Board of Directors

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SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP

GREATER SAN DIEGO
INNER-CITY GAMES

1996
Greater San Diego Inner-City Games

Essay Contest
Grades 6-8

Topic: What qualities or habits should you possess to become an Olympic athlete? (i.e., What lifestyle behaviors would you imitate or avoid?)

- Please write fewer than 300 words.
- All applicants must attach the following completed information to their essay:

(Please print)
Student Name:(Last)_____ (First)_____

School:_____ Phone:_____

Name of Teacher:_____

District:_____

Age:_____ Grade:_____(If in Grade 8 now, and Grade 9 will put you in high school in September 1996, please tell us which high school you will be attending:_____

- Entries may be typed or handwritten in pen or #2 pencil.
- A copy of student's public library card must be attached to entry.
- All entrants will receive a certificate of participation and be provided with bus transportation from their schools to Jack Murphy Stadium for the Inner-City Games opening ceremony on September 17, 1996.
- Essays will not be returned.
- Finalists will be notified in early June. On the day of the opening ceremonies at Jack Murphy Stadium, they will receive a medal and T-Shirt.
- Essays must be received by **Friday, May 3, 1996.**
- Mail essays via County Office truck mail to:

Inner-City Games Essays
c/o Florine Belanger
San Diego County Office of Education
6401 Linda Vista Road, Room 622
San Diego, CA 92111
292-3850