City of Gainesville, Florida

Office of Mayor Thomas D. Bussing

10/08/01 #001941

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS. Florida's education system is based upon the principle that all individuals shall have the opportunity to gain the knowledge and skills necessary to achieve their full potential and the educational programs for exceptional students, including students with disabilities and students who are gifted, incorporate this fundamental principle; and

WHEREAS, students with disabilities received a variety of specialized services and instruction that enable them to participate in, and benefit from educational activities by having access to assistive technology and communication devices, such as Braile, large print materials, sign language, and other accommodations to the general curriculum, enabling students with disabilities to participate in classroom activities, benefit from instruction, and demonstrate their capabilities; and

WHEREAS, students with disabilities are provided with transition services to prepare them to attain their desired post-school outcomes including post-secondary education, employment, and adult living; and

WHEREAS, students who are gifted are provided with advanced academic opportunities through acceleration and enrichment activities that help them expand their horizons and reach their potential; and

WHEREAS, the State of Florida has demonstrated its commitment to school improvement and accountability for all students by increasing positive outcomes for Florida's approximately 468,000 exceptional students ages birth through twenty-one; and the recognition and appreciation to nearly 47,000 Florida teachers, paraprofessionals, and other educators working daily to assist these students and their parents to achieve their goals and progress on the path to excellence.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Thomas D. Bussing, by the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Gainesville, do hereby proclaim October 7-13, 2001 as

EXCEPTIONAL STUDENT EDUCATION WEEK

in the City of Gainesville and invite all our citizens to join me in recognizing and appreciating the dedicated efforts and commitment of these outstanding educators.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the official seal of the City of Gainesville, Florida, this first day of October, A.D., 2001.

Thomas D. Bussing

Mayor