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FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



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October 24, 2007

Dr. John A. Stewart
Executive Director, Florida High School
Athletic Association (FHSAA)
1801 NW 80th Boulevard
Gainesville, Florida 32606-9176

Dear Dr. Stewart:

Thank you for your recent communication regarding cheerleading as a competitive sport in the state of Florida. This is an important topic and I am pleased to see that the Florida High School Athletic Association under your leadership has taken a proactive approach to this issue.

The fact that you are taking cheerleading from a sideline ancillary activity to a true athletic competition indicates your commitment to all sports in Florida. Your leadership to insure that cheerleading will be regulated under the same guidelines, rules, rights, and privileges as other sports will insure compliance with the Title IX requirements.

Your letter of October 15, 2007, will remain on file in the Office of Equity and Access and serve as assurance that the Title IX requirements of the Office of Civil Rights are being met. The schools that submit competitive cheerleading as a sport, as part of their Title IX report, will be included as such.

I appreciate your participation in this issue and look forward to a continued working relationship with FHSAA.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jeanine Blomberg".

Jeanine Blomberg
Commissioner