



Special Olympics
Washington
Unified Robotics

UNIFIED ROBOTICS™ FACT SHEET

What: Special Olympics Unified Robotics is a first-of-its-kind program that brings the sport of robotics to high school students with and without disabilities, uniting students of diverse abilities as teammates and competitors on the field of play.

Athletes and Partners work 1:1 designing, building, and programming robots with LEGO® Mindstorms kits for a unique game challenge. Each participating school will have one, or multiple, robots competing in the Championship Tournament at the end of a six-week build season.

Background: Developed in 2015 by King’s High School student, Delaney Foster, when she brought her *FIRST* Robotics teammates to Roosevelt High School to work alongside students with special needs to build robots. Delaney’s sister, Kendall Foster, has autism, and Delaney has been a life-long advocate of inclusive education and was inspired by Special Olympics Unified Sports. After the successful pilot season, Foster partnered with Special Olympics Washington to bring Unified Robotics to all high schools. 2016 is the Inaugural season of Unified Robotics as a multi-school Special Olympics Unified Sport and will provide a sustainable and scalable model for other regions to follow.

Special Olympics Unified Schools: A strategy to activate youth, engage educators, and promote school communities of acceptance and inclusion where all young people are agents of change.

Creating the Norm: Unified Robotics exposes students and educators to the unique talents and abilities of students with special needs. Young people experience working alongside individuals of all abilities and can participate in the movement toward neuro-diverse hiring policies, workplace accommodation and adaption.

Season: October 10, 2016 – December 3, 2016

Season Finale: The season will culminate in a Championship Tournament between all participating schools. December 3rd, 10am-3pm, Pacific Science Center (200 Second Ave North, Seattle)
This special event is made possible from generous support of Pacific Science Center.

Participating Schools: Roosevelt High School, Franklin High School, Ballard High School, Ingraham High School, Auburn High School, Newport High School, Lake Washington High School, King’s High School, Edmonds Heights K-12, Mariner High School, Academy for Precision Learning, Eckstein Middle School, Hazel Wolf Middle School, and TOPS Middle School

For More Information: Visit unifiedrobotics.org or contact SOWA Director of Unified Schools Morgan Larche at mlarche@sowa.org or Consulting Mentor Noelle Foster at noellefoster@me.com