

# Unified Champion Schools

## Commitment to Inclusion - 2017-2018

**Special  
Olympics**  
Washington



Welcome New and Returning Unified Schools!

Welcome to the 2017-2018 School Year! Special Olympics Washington is excited that your school has taken the steps to begin to or continue to offer quality Unified Champion Schools Programming throughout the 2017-2018 school year and hopefully beyond.

As you might know, the Special Olympics Unified Champion Schools program is aimed at promoting social inclusion through intentionally planned and implemented activities affecting school-wide change. With sports as the foundation, the three component model (Unified Sports, Inclusive Youth Leadership, and Whole School Engagement) offers a unique combination of effective activities that equip young people with tools and training to create sports, classroom and school climates of acceptance. These are school climates where students with disabilities feel welcome and are routinely included in, and feel a part of, all activities, opportunities and functions.

Throughout the 2017-2018 school year, Special Olympics Washington will be focusing on building the quality of our Unified Champion School programming at the state level and the school level. We will focus on providing more training opportunities for youth, coaches, and school staff through topic specific webinars, workshops, and multiple Unified Youth Summits throughout the state for educational and networking opportunities. Schools will receive consistent communication from Special Olympics Washington staff via our Unified Schools news letters that will be sent out quarterly, providing news, updates, and highlighting specific schools across the state who are achieving Unified Champion School status by excelling in all of our 3 components.

Our goal for this year is that **65%** of our schools that participate will have quality program offerings in all **3 of the Unified Champion School components**. Schools will also have an opportunity this year to apply to be recognized as a National Banner Unified Champion School, which is a school that has demonstrated commitment to inclusion by meeting 10 standards of excellence. Schools who achieve this standard will be recognized with a National Banner to be displayed on their school campus and their name across the nation! Please reach out to [mlarche@sowa.org](mailto:mlarche@sowa.org) to receive the 10 standards.

The below form registers your school with Special Olympics Washington for the 2017-2018 school year. Please communicate with your coaches, student's leaders, clubs, etc. on what sports/activities your school plans to offer throughout the year before completing this form. Please review the below form thoroughly before signing, as school will be expected to achieve what they had committed to offer throughout the year.

We look forward to seeing how your school takes the Unified Movement to the next level!

Morgan Larche  
Director, Unified Schools

### SCHOOL LIAISON INFORMATION

School Name:	School District:	New School? Y <input type="checkbox"/> or N <input type="checkbox"/>
Grade Level(s): <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-School <input type="checkbox"/> Elementary <input type="checkbox"/> Middle <input type="checkbox"/> High <input type="checkbox"/> College (please complete a different form for each school in the district)		Total School Enrollment:
School Address:		
City:	Zip Code:	County:
School Phone:	School Fax:	
Main School Liaison Name:	Liaison Job Title:	New Liaison for '17-'18? Y <input type="checkbox"/> or N <input type="checkbox"/>
Liaison E-mail:	Liaison Cell:	

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Please select ALL options within each component that your school anticipates completing this year as your school strategy for inclusion.

*Refer to the Explanation of Special Olympics programs for definitions of each unified activity.*

## COMPONENT 1: UNIFIED SPORTS®

- **Young Athletes™** (inclusive sports and play program for grades PK-2<sup>nd</sup> to build social, cognitive, and physical skills)
- **Unified Sports® Recreation (R)** (promote social inclusion and increase sports skills and knowledge in a non-competitive inclusive sports setting)
- **Unified Sports® Player Development (PD)** (teammates of higher ability serving as mentors to assist players of lower ability)
- **Unified Sports® Competitive (C)** (teammates of similar ability and age who train and compete together. Teams compete against others with higher level sport skills. Competitive Unified Sports is training and competition based.)

### Fall

R PD C

- ☐ ☐ ☐ Unified Flag Football
- ☐ ☐ ☐ Unified Bowling
- ☐ Unified Robotics
- ☐ Unified PE/Inclusive Fitness
- ☐ Unified Sports Field Day
- ☐ ☐ ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

### Winter

R PD C

- ☐ ☐ ☐ Unified Basketball
- ☐ Unified Cheerleading
- ☐ Unified PE/Inclusive Fitness
- ☐ Unified Sports Field Day
- ☐ ☐ ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

### Spring

R PD C

- ☐ ☐ ☐ Unified Soccer
- ☐ Unified Track
- ☐ Unified PE/Inclusive Fitness
- ☐ Unified Sports Field Day
- ☐ ☐ ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

### Pre-School and Elementary Schools ONLY:

- ☐ Young Athletes™
- ☐ Unified Sports Field Days
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## COMPONENT 2: INCLUSIVE YOUTH LEADERSHIP (IYL)

Inclusive Youth Leadership provides students with and without intellectual disabilities opportunities to take on leadership roles to promote Unified Champion School activities in the school and in the community

**\*Each school should aim to offer at least 1 of the below IYL options throughout the school year\***

- ☐ Unified Club or YAC
- ☐ Youth Coach Young Athletes™ (YA)
- ☐ Attend a Unified Youth Summit
- ☐ Organize a Unified Youth Summit
- ☐ Unified Pair on Student Council/ASB
- ☐ Unified Champion Youth Leader Participation
- ☐ Fundraiser: \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## COMPONENT 3: WHOLE SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Whole School Activities provides opportunities for all students in the school to participate in Unified Champion Schools through sustained school-wide activities.

**\*Each school should aim to offer at least 1 Whole School Activity per semester\***

- ☐ Spread the Word to End the Word™ campaign
- ☐ Respect campaign/assembly/rally
- ☐ Disability Awareness activity
- ☐ Fans in the Stands
- ☐ School-wide Unified Sports Day
- ☐ Unified Sports Pep Rally (i.e. send off athletes to competition)
- ☐ Get Into It – lessons
- ☐ Movies that Move – video discussions
- ☐ Perfect Game – book
- ☐ It's Our School Too – skit
- ☐ Cool Schools Polar Plunge team
- ☐ Fundraiser: \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

# Commitment to Inclusion 2017-2018



## TRAINING, COMMUNICATION, EVALUATION, AND CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

- ☐ Complete the free online NFHS Unified Sports® Coaches Training (As a liaison or coach)
- ☐ Participate in mid-term and final report online survey as outlined by Special Olympics Washington (SOWA) and Special Olympics International (SOI) Liaison Survey
- ☐ Provide SOWA staff with highlights, updates, pictures and videos for mid-term (January) and final (June) reports
- ☐ Attend SOWA Unified Champion Schools 2017-2018 Welcome Webinar

## COMMITMENT AND CERTIFICATION

Special Olympics unified approach has been an effective strategy in creating a school climate of inclusion, acceptance, and respect for all students, with and without intellectual disabilities.

### Certification:

By signing this form, the school administrator and liaison certify that:

- The information provided is accurate to the best of my ability;
- The school will comply with all Special Olympics Washington policies and procedures, volunteer, athlete and Unified Sports Partner paperwork, General Rules;
- The school will provide Special Olympics Washington with requested data throughout the year;
- The school will commit to doing their best in building a school community of inclusion.

In turn it is understood that Special Olympics Washington will:

- Provide consultation, education, support and technical assistance for all sports programs and activities that promote inclusion, acceptance, respect and dignity for all students;
- Provide a comprehensive training program by Special Olympics Washington;
- Provide Special Olympics Washington policies and procedures, training manuals, schedules, athlete and Unified Sports Partner paperwork, General Rules etc.;
- Provide resources to support school based unified activities (as agreed);
- Provide Special Olympics Washington logo and communications resources such as press releases, media contacts etc. used to introduce and promote programs.
- Provide financial support as outlined in the funding request application to support the schools "Commitment to Inclusion" as stated in this document.

Administrator's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

School Liaison's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

If known, please provide your Unified Sports coaches contact information if it is different than the school liaison:

Coach Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Sport: \_\_\_\_\_ New? Y ☐ or N ☐  
Coach Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Coach Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Coach Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Sport: \_\_\_\_\_ New? Y ☐ or N ☐  
Coach Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Coach Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Please email this form to: Morgan Larche, Director of Unified Schools,  
at [mlarche@sowa.org](mailto:mlarche@sowa.org) or mail to PO Box 1640, Richland, WA 99352

## **Commitment to Inclusion 2017-2018**



Please contact Morgan with questions at 206-693-2616