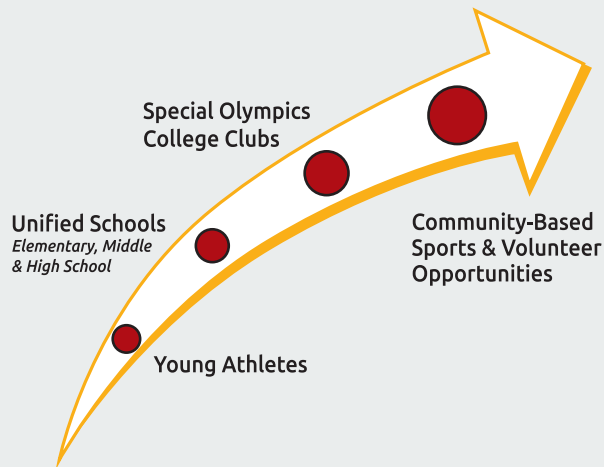




## Pipeline of Opportunity

The Unified Champion Schools program creates a pipeline of opportunities which starts at age 2 with Young Athletes and continues throughout elementary school, middle school, high school and post-secondary education with Special Olympics College Clubs.

After graduation, students of all abilities can continue to train, compete and volunteer in Unified or traditional sports through Special Olympics community-based teams and programs.



*Unified Champion Schools programming is funded by the U.S. Office of Special Education Programs.*

## Testimonials

“

*“The WIAA member schools have embraced the Unified movement and value the changes it has provided through inclusion, acceptance, respect and promoting human dignity. We are proud of our Unified Champion Schools and look forward to the positive impact these students will have on their communities.”*

— Brian Smith,  
Assistant Executive Director, WIAA

*“Unified Champion Schools has been life changing at Timberline High School; it has effected the lives of students and staff alike.”*

— Renee Kilcup,  
Unified Schools Liaison, Timberline High School

”

### Contact Us:

Phone: (206) 362-4949

Email: [info@sowa.org](mailto:info@sowa.org)

[www.specialolympicswashington.org](http://www.specialolympicswashington.org)

[www.sowa.org/unified-champion-schools/](http://www.sowa.org/unified-champion-schools/)



**Special Olympics**  
Washington



*Building School Communities of  
Acceptance, Respect and Understanding*

**Special  
Olympics**  
Washington



Special Olympics  
**Unified Champion  
Schools**



# Special Olympics Washington

## Unified Champion Schools

### Special Olympics Unified Champion Schools is....

Aimed at promoting social inclusion through intentionally planned activities affecting school-wide change. These activities equip young people with tools and trainings to create sports, classroom and school climates of acceptance, respect and understanding.

#### Within Unified Champion Schools:

- Students with and without intellectual disabilities are provided opportunities for participation in physical activities and building positive peer relationships across the school setting
- Students with and without intellectual disabilities are provided opportunities to interact with their peers and to personally learn and grow

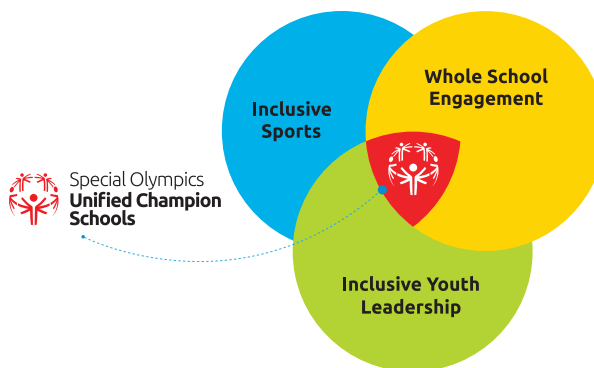
At its core, the Unified Schools strategy is not just about including students with disabilities, but unifying **all** students.

### How Does the Program Work?

A Unified Champion School implements three main components, all of which are intertwined with each other in a cohesive effort to increase social inclusion throughout the school.



### The Three Main Components



**Whole School Engagement:** awareness and educational activities that promote inclusion to reach the entire student body.

**Inclusive Youth Leadership:** students of all abilities working together to lead and plan advocacy, awareness and other inclusive activities throughout the school year.

**Inclusive Sports:** a fully inclusive sports or fitness program that combines approximately equal numbers of students with and without intellectual disabilities, such as Special Olympics Unified Sports, Interscholastic Unified Sports, Young Athletes™, Unified PE or Unified Intramurals.

By offering a combination of inclusive sports and youth leadership opportunities, as well as a variety of activities that engage students throughout the school, the school community as a whole has a part in building a socially inclusive school climate.



### Get Involved With the Three Components

#### Whole School Engagement:

- Spread the Word to End the Word™ campaign
- Fans in the Stands
- Unified Sports Pep Rally/Sports Day
- Get Into It – lessons
- Movies that Move – video discussions

#### Inclusive Youth Leadership:

- Unified Club or Youth Activation Committee
- Youth Summits
- SOWA Unified Champion Youth Leader

#### Inclusive Sports:

- **Young Athletes™** – inclusive sport and play program for grades PK-2nd to build social, cognitive and physical skills
- **Unified Sports® Recreation** – promotes social inclusion, increased sports skills and knowledge in a non-competitive inclusive sports setting
- **Unified Sports® Player Development** – teammates with higher ability serving as mentors to assist players with lower ability
- **Unified Sports® Competitive** – teammates of similar ability and age train and compete together