



**Special
Olympics
Florida**

Project UNIFY®

Project UNIFY® Letter of Intent

This letter is a formal expression of our school's commitment to inclusion, acceptance and respect of all students through the implementation of Project UNIFY®. Our students and teachers will make efforts to continually improve as an inclusive community for everyone, especially students with Intellectual Disabilities (ID). Students with and without ID will be empowered to lead the efforts to improve the climate at our school with teacher and administrative support.

Project UNIFY activities are made up of three main components:

- Inclusive Sports: Sports participation involving people with and without intellectual disabilities
- Youth Leadership: Newly formed clubs or an existing school club which plan/carry out activities for/with Special Olympics athletes.
- Whole School Engagement: Campaign(s) to encourage acceptance of people with intellectual disabilities and educate students about this population through activities such as pledge drives and other school activities.

As a school/district, we understand that in order to receive monetary support from Special Olympics Florida, we commit to participate in at least 1 activity in each component. Please select the activities your school would like to participate in.

Unified Sports

Model: (***Competitive** or **Recreational**) (circle one)

FHSAA (High Schools Only):

- Basketball (Winter)
- Track and Field: Athletics (Spring)

Community Based Program Competitions: All schools can compete in Community Based Competitions

- Basketball
- Track and Field: Athletics
- Flag Football
- Soccer

***Competitive Unified Sports® teams must fill out a Registered Training Program (RTP) form and have a Certified Sport-Specific Coach on roster.**

Youth Leadership

- Partners Club: A Partner's Club is a club for students with and without intellectual disabilities that comes together for sports, games, community service, school events, and most of all, to have fun.
- Youth Activation Committee: A Youth Activation Committee (YAC) is a group of youth comprised of members with and without intellectual disabilities within a school. This group works together throughout the year to educate, motivate, and activate youth to become agents of change in their communities and advocate for the respect, inclusion, and acceptance of all people, regardless of abilities.



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Whole School Engagement

- Spread the Word to End the Word Campaign R-Word Campaign (March event)
- Inclusive Field Trip (April through May): Stipend will be provided of \$350 for each school for an inclusive field trip for students with and without ID. Ideas include Wekiva Springs, Sporting Event, Sea World Education Center, etc.
- COOL SCHOOLS PLUNGE- Polar Plunge at Aquatica, SeaWorld’s Waterpark on February 11, 2017
Students and teachers, it’s time to suit up and jump in! Have fun raising money and instilling school pride while showing your support for the athletes of Special Olympics Florida. Middle and High Schools across the state are challenged to recruit the biggest team, raise the most money, and plunge into the chilled waters of the Aquatica wave pool together on February 11. Cool prizes are awarded to the top team and individual fundraisers. So join us and face off against other schools for bragging rights, and show the community you are ‘freezin’ for a reason.’ Check the box to sign up and receive more information.

All Project UNIFY schools will be required to include:

- Student leadership roles in carrying out the initiatives of Project UNIFY, with an emphasis on ‘athlete’ involvement in some manner.
- Completion of online survey at the end of the year.
- Brief monthly updates. This can be done by the student or educator.
- Use the Special Olympics Project UNIFY logo used on all printed materials.

District:

School/ School Address:

Administrator (Principal or VP) Signature:

Printed Name/Email:

Liaison Support (Teacher/Staff/) Signature:

Printed Name/Title:

Email/Phone:

Please return (email and/or fax) completed form to:

Herley Pellew, Project UNIFY® Manager

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