



Unified Sports, Bowling

"Unified Schools, Intent Form" – Due May 1st

Special Olympics Nebraska (SONE) plans to again partner with the NSAA in providing Unified Sports, Bowling during the 2017-18 school year. In partnering, SONE will likely be able to provide some funding through the "Unified Schools" funding program.

- Pre-requisites: sign-up by May 1st, 2017, verification of participation (during the season), wear the co-branded Special Olympics Nebraska/NSAA Project Unify Patch (mailed later) on shirts or uniforms, fulfillment of the components of Project Unify (see the following pages), and complete a brief survey (administered by University of Massachusetts) at the end of the school year
- Grant Money Allotment: Although not assured, Special Olympics has traditionally been able to give around \$300 per school. Amounts would be determined and announced following the sign-up period. If money is available, schools would receive their money next fall.

School Name: _____

Total number of high school students with IEP's: _____

Total school enrollment (grades 9-12, 2016-17 school year): _____

Intent to participate in Unified Sports, Bowling in the 2017-18 school year: _____ YES

Superintendent/Designee Signature: _____

Date: _____

PLEASE MAIL, EMAIL, OR FAX A COPY TO THE NSAA & SONE BY May 1ST, 2017.

NSAA, ATTENTION: Dan Masters

Nebraska School Activities Association
500 Charleston St. Suite 1
Lincoln, NE 68508-1119

Fax: 402-489-0934

Email: dmasters@nsaahome.org

SONE, ATTENTION: Taylor Johnson

Special Olympics Nebraska
9427 F Street
Omaha, NE 68127

Fax: 402-331-5964

Email: tjohnson@sone.org



An Invitation to Participate in **Special Olympics Unified Strategy for Schools®**, a Program Making Positive Changes to Schools in Nebraska

What is Unified Strategy®?

Formerly called Project UNIFY®, Unified Strategy for Schools® provides significant positive outcomes for participants, and can play an important supporting role in state, district, and individual school strategic goals, whether it be promoting a positive school climate, developing physical fitness, building character, preventing bullying, enhancing student engagement and promoting and building student leadership skills. It is the connections between initiatives – along with the whole school's involvement in the design and implementation of Unified Strategy® – that can foster a more inclusive and welcoming environment for all students.

What is a Unified Champion® School?

A school may choose **at least one** of these categories; however, can do activities in each category if desired. A **Unified Champion School** will focus on a minimum of one activity from each of the components.

- 1) Inclusive Sports
- 2) Youth Leadership
- 3) School-wide awareness

School contacts will be required submit regular reporting to the Special Olympics Nebraska office as well as participate in a brief survey at the end of the school year (*administered by University of Massachusetts*). Thank you, in advance, for your participation in the survey which serves to evaluate our state program.

Three components of Unified Strategy®

Unified Sports	Student Leadership	School wide Awareness
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NSAA Unified Sports • Inclusive Sport Opportunities • Unified PE class • Unified recreation/intramural opportunities • Skill development • Fellowship Games • Culminating events • Young Athletes • Red Shirt Rookies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student Council Partnership • Unified clubs • Lunch buddy clubs • Cool School Plunges • Student Coaches • Student Volunteers • Youth Activation Committee • Youth Summit • Mentor Program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GET INTO IT® service-learning curriculum, • Unify or Respect Day • Student-led assemblies • SPREAD THE WORD TO END THE WORD® activities • Essays • Newspaper editorial writing, • Volunteering with Elementary School or Young Athletes programs on Unified Strategy® activities. • Leadership roles in planning Special Olympics competitions or fitness activities • Involve your school in Polar Plunge challenges

UNIFIED SPORTS

- ☐ **NSAA Unified Sports:** participation in Unified Bowling by students with and without intellectual disabilities.
- ☐ **Inclusive Sports Opportunities or other Unified Sports options:** Unified/Inclusive P.E., unified recreation, unified fitness, training, skills development, Fellowship Games, etc.
- ☐ **Young Athletes Program:** sport and play program focused on developing motor skills for two to seven year olds.
- ☐ **Red Shirt Rookies Program:** sports readiness program for K-6th grade.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP

- ☐ **Students as event organizers:** Students organizing and planning Special Olympics events or activities
- ☐ **Unified Clubs:** Students plan/carry out recreational activities for/with Special Olympics athletes at school or in the community
- ☐ **Cool Schools Plunge:** Youth helps to engage school participation in Special Olympics by “pledging and plunging” at the Polar Bear Plunge.
- ☐ **Student Coaches:** The students serve as coaches for their peer athletes in preparing for Special Olympics competitions.
- ☐ **Student Volunteers:** Students volunteering with Special Olympics Nebraska during competition and other events.
- ☐ **Youth Activation Committee:** Participate in the Statewide YAC or create a committee within your school.
- ☐ **Youth Summit:** Attend the free statewide Youth Summit during the 2016-2017 school year.
- ☐ **Mentor Program:** Middle or High School students mentor Elementary students on Unified initiatives
- ☐ **Other:** Please explain here _____

SCHOOL-WIDE AWARENESS

- ☐ **Spread the Word to End the Word campaign:** organize campaigns encouraging respect, tolerance and acceptance for all.
- ☐ **Fans in the Stands:** Students cheer as fans for Special Olympics athletes at school events or local competitions
- ☐ **Get Into It™ :** Utilize free online lessons and resources endorsed by the Department of Education for use in general education classrooms that teaches about character education, respect, acceptance, power of words, etc.
Learn more about Get Into It™ at: <https://getintoit.specialolympics.org/> or call 402-331-5545 for a free kit.
- ☐ **Respect Rallies:** Students lead a school wide assembly to promote respect and acceptance in the hallways.
- ☐ **Essays/Social Media:** Students write for school/local papers as well as take to social media to promote Unified culture and activities.
- ☐ **Other:** Please explain here _____

As a Unified Champion School, your school is eligible to receive the following resources

- Special Olympics Unified Strategy Toolkit: Supporting Schools and Communities of Inclusion
- Special Olympics – “Get Into It kit” (free service-learning curriculum for students in grades K-12)
- Special Olympics Young Athletes kit: curriculum, equipment, training
- Movies that Move DVD
- Credit for materials for your R-word or respect campaign.
- Promotional video resources for school assemblies
- Opportunity to participate in a statewide Youth Activation Committee / Summit for no charge
- Inclusive Leadership Guide
- Guide To Unified Sports
- Staff Support

Special Olympics Nebraska Unified Strategy®

2017-2018 School Participation Form

Please FAX to the SONE office at 402-331-5964 or scan and email to Taylor Johnson tjohnson@sone.org

SCHOOL NAME:			
Mailing Address:			
City/State/Zip:			
SCHOOL CONTACT:			
Phone:	()	Email:	
SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION:			
Phone:	()	Email:	
Signature of School Liaison (required):			
Principal (if required)			
Total number of students with IEP's:			
Total School Enrollment:			

School contacts will be required to submit brief quarterly updates to Taylor Johnson (tjohnson@sone.org) at the Special Olympics Nebraska office as well as participate in a brief survey (*administered by University of Massachusetts*) at the end of the school year.

Thank you, in advance, for your participation in the survey which serves to evaluate our state program.