

Special Olympics Unified Champion Schools Spread the Word Campaign



People with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) still face exclusion, social isolation, and social abuse. Spread the Word efforts are designed to rally schools, organizations, and communities to commit to the

inclusion and acceptance of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. SOMET-UCS encourages and supports schools as they plan inclusion activities throughout the year. The first Wednesday of March is designated as the Day of Activation—March 5, 2025. We are pleased to offer a variety of resources to schools from elementary through high school across Montana in 2025. The digital resources are available on the SOMET-UCS webpage & physical support materials are available, upon request, to all current UCS schools.

Unified Champion Schools Highlights UCS inclusion activities from across the state!



Sacajawea Elementary School (Great Falls) held an Ice Bucket Challenge fundraiser/school-wide assembly in December 2024, raising \$5,157 for Special Olympics! For more information on Special Olympics Polar Plunges and how you can be involved, please visit [Special Olympics Montana | Polar Plunge](#).

Billings West High School celebrated their recognition as a Special Olympics National Unified Champion School in December. In addition, they were selected as the Unified Champion School ESPN Honor Roll school for Montana.



Hellgate School District students participated in a variety of inclusive activities throughout the fall, including golfing at King Ranch, visiting a farm, bowling at Westside Lanes, swimming at the Missoula YMCA, and a Friendsgiving celebration.

Thank you to Unified Champion Schools and communities across the state for all you do to promote inclusion and acceptance for students with and without intellectual disabilities!

Not yet a Unified Champion School? [Click here](#) to complete the UCS Commitment Form and start the inclusion revolution in your school, district, and community! Special Olympics Unified Champion Schools® is a program for schools Pre-K through university that intentionally promotes meaningful social inclusion by bringing together students with and without intellectual disabilities to create accepting school environments utilizing three interconnected components: Special Olympics Unified Sports®, inclusive youth leadership, and whole school engagement.

*For questions, contact Terri Norman, UCS
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Special Olympics
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