

**What is Unified Sports:** It is a joint program between Special Olympics NJ and the NJSIAA to bring together people of similar age, with and without disabilities, to play on the same team. These teams are made up of young people who either do not get the chance to play for their schools' teams, or don't participate in varsity sports but still want to be involved in interscholastic competitions.



**What are the requirements for the students to be involved in Unified sports?**

If your school is planning on competing on the interscholastic level all of the Unified athletes and Unified partners must meet the same NJSIAA guidelines as any athlete who is competing on a school team. Both the Unified athlete and the Unified partner must meet all of the NJSIAA standards for athletes, for example age, physical exam, steroid testing, etc.



**Who do I contact if I have additional questions?**

**Geri McKelvey: Director of Athletics & Student Activities**  
[McKelveyg@warrenhills.org](mailto:McKelveyg@warrenhills.org)

**Annette Walters: Assistant Superintendent of Personnel and Director of Special Education.**  
[Waltersa@warrenhills.org](mailto:Waltersa@warrenhills.org)

**Al Stumpf – Assistant Director NJSIAA – Unified Sports** [astumpf@njsiaa.org](mailto:astumpf@njsiaa.org)

WHRSD along with SONJ is sponsoring bowling and track & field for the 2017-2018 school year. For this year, bowling and track and field will be included in the NJSIAA State Tournament. It will be determined at a later date at which level of the tournament and where it will take place based on the number of teams involved. Earlier this year there was a showcase Unified Soccer game during the Non Public Tournament at Kean

*Coaching Matters*

**What about coaching requirements?**

Again, if your school is competing on the interscholastic level the coaches must meet the same NJSIAA guidelines as your school's coaching staff. They also need to complete the NFHS free course on "Coaching Unified Sports". The Unified coaches also need to complete the NJSIAA Coaching Principles course.



*The Warren Hills Regional School District challenges and empowers a dynamic, diverse student body in a supportive learning environment by providing academic and co-curricular opportunities to become successful, productive members of the global community.*

**Warren Hills Regional School District**

***UNIFIED***

**LEARN  
PRACTICE  
PLAY**



*Our Goals: Breaking down barriers -creating more school environments through social inclusion.*



@WHRSD

**High School Programs:**

- + Unified Friends (Best Buddies)
- + Unified Culinary Club
- + Unified Bowling
- + Unified Track and Field

**2018-2019 Plans**

**High School Programs:**

- + Unified Friends (Best Buddies)
- + Unified Culinary Club
- + Unified Arts
- + Unified Bowling
- + Unified Track and Field
- + Unified Basketball
- + Unified Soccer

**Middle School Programs**

- + Unified Pals (Kidz Connection)
- + Unified Intramurals



**\*Model Acceptance \* Use Team Approach  
\*Be Positive, Patient, and Provide Time  
\*Ensure Safety**

**What about an athlete who is on the same sport roster – can they be a Unified partner in that sport?** We are trying to encourage the growth of the Unified program at this time we will allow non varsity (usually freshman and JV players) who have not achieved varsity status (have not participated on the varsity level) to be Unified partners in that sport. For example, in track and field, a member of the team who has not taken part in any varsity

**Meeting Times: Practices: Competitions will vary throughout the year.**

**Each Sport or Activity will have a Approved Coach or Advisor**

**Special Olympics  
New Jersey**



**NJ SIAA**

