

GLASSBORO SCHOOL DISTRICT

Monthly Board Items

Date Submitted: 8/12/21

Proposed Effective Date: 2021-2022 school year

Short description (title): Special Olympics Unified Champion School Grant - GHS

Submitted by:
Catherine Torbik

Building:
GHS

**Proposed
cost/amount:**

ESY:

Funded through:
Unified Grant

Grade(s) impacted if any:
9 - 12

Board Action Requested: (informational)

GHS is applying for Special Olympics Unified Champion Schools Grant for the 2021-2022 school year. Implementation to include Strangers to Friends recess group and club and Unified PE class and Bowling and track club.

Grant amount: \$13,206.63

Details and ramifications:

Please see attached grant application and simple budget.

Unified PE will allow for inclusion of students with IEPs in all PE activities promoting the mission of Special Olympics. Professional development and adaptive supplies will be provided through grant funding.

Unified Strangers to Friends club allows students to interact through student driven activities including crafts, food and games.

Unified eSports will continue to play Rocket League and other games to foster inclusive opportunities. Working with other districts, consideration towards inter-district play is being made.

An inclusive bowling club will be established with monthly practices and a possible community event to foster the goals of Special Olympics.

Unified track club will provide students with the opportunity to participate in traditional track events at an adapted level. Students will participate in an inter district meet.

Positives:

It is the mission of Unified Champion Schools to embrace inclusion and belonging of all students. This is facilitated through accessible activities for all.

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

Board Date: _____

Approved: Y or N

Index #: _____

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Catherine Torbik, Director of Special Education

Special Olympics Unified Champion Schools
Glassboro High School 2021-2022 Program Funding Application
Project Description

Please summarize your Unified Champion Schools goals for 2020-2021; how will UCS activities lead to greater equity and inclusion in your school community?

Glassboro Public Schools is dedicated to ensuring that all students are guaranteed the right to feel a sense of belonging in their community. It is the goal of the School Leadership Team to provide accessible opportunities for students to actively engage in the school community.

Goal 1) Implement the Unified Leaders Club at Glassboro High School School to serve as the student driven leadership within the building for program implementation, Choose to Include week planning and fundraising and to organize activities within the club to promote social connections among all members.

Goal 2) Implementation of Unified PE course that will provide adaptive PE in conjunction with general education PE goals in a mixed ability group to foster goals of Unified.

Goal 3) Implement a Unified bowling, basketball and/or track club that will hold practices and consider events with other in-district Unified clubs and explore inter-district culminating events.

Goal 4) Implementation of Unified eSports club that will hold practice sessions and participate in combined play within the club and explore inter-district play and/or culminating events.

Briefly describe the special needs population in your school that will be participating as Unified youth leaders and athletes.

Glassboro Public Schools is looking to provide students, often programmed in self-contained settings, increased opportunities to be included in both athletic and leadership roles throughout the school community.

Glassboro High School special needs population includes students in grades 9 – 12+ who have been identified as having intellectual disabilities, cognitive delays or other closely related developmental disabilities with functional limitations in both general learning and adaptive skills.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

Currently 17% of GHS students are included in general education less than 40% of the day.

How do you plan to implement your Unified Club and inclusive youth leadership and what support will you provide your students in carrying out their Unified programs?

During the first-year of the Play Unified School Partnership Grant, Glassboro High School will look to grow the Unified Leaders Club introduced during the summer, which focuses on students developing a club vision that supports a sense of belonging throughout the school. The club will focus on incorporating the Unified philosophy through school activities and communication to increase inclusive opportunities. This club will be facilitated by one special education teacher and one general education teacher who will meet regularly throughout the school year to support student decision making and communication skills within the group.

How will you fulfill the Unified Sports component? (Unified PE, Fitness, Recreation, Competition)
What sports will you participate in, what challenges do you anticipate and how will you address them?

Glassboro High School has developed a credit bearing Unified PE class. Current Athletic Director, Principal and Director have experience with Unified PE through prior work experiences. A class period dedicated to a Unified PE class has been established in the schedule and the principal is working to establish participation guidelines for students to register for the course. Glassboro is interested in engaging with other Unified Districts to develop a curriculum that supports the Unified philosophy and allows access to activities for all students.

Challenges for this course would include the ability of the teacher to appropriately adapt activities to allow access for all students to participate. Principal and Directors will work with teachers on adapting activities, as well as setting up communication with other district's that have Unified PE staff to support planning. There may be a need for adaptive equipment and materials to support access to activities which will need to be budgeted for each school year.

Glassboro High School is interested in establishing a Unified track team. The team and coaches will establish practices and participate in at least one culminating track meet with other Unified districts.

Challenges will include an appropriate ratio of students with disabilities to peers without disabilities due to the small size of the district and participation in spring activities by all students. Coaches will need to participate in Unified coach certification. Transportation could pose a potential cost and availability challenge. Working with the Athletic Director to schedule appropriately and seeking alternate funding sources for busing will need to be implemented.

Glassboro High School is looking to establish bowling club level sports.

Challenges include difficulty with lane access and transportation. Working with the local bowling ally, club price was determined and the district will look into an account with the ally to support lane reservation and access. Working with transportation to secure a bus routinely will allow for ease of transportation.

Glassboro High School is eager to build a Unified eSports league with students taking on leadership roles in presenting to administration on the benefits of this group.

Challenges for this activity include care of already purchased equipment. Contacts with Pennsauken and Lindenwold will be used to help with developing the infrastructure needed to play competitively among the club and potentially inter-district play.

What is your plan for engaging your whole school? How will you incorporate the Choose to Include Week campaign?

Glassboro Public Schools has a PR specialist that helps communicate events and celebrations that are occurring within the district out to the district and to the Glassboro community, through websites, social media and traditional media. This will allow for exposure of the Unified philosophy to a variety of stakeholders increasing interest in inclusive opportunities.

Working with the School Leadership teams, Choose to Include Week will be incorporated into the calendar. The Student Leadership Club will develop activities, announcements, and events that will be supported at the building level to promote Choose to Include Week. Both education and fun/competitive activities will be incorporated into the week. Student athletes will be included in pep rallies and celebrations throughout the school year.

As Unified activities grow, students will be encouraged to share their experiences at other club meetings, parent advisory meetings and other school sponsored events as appropriate.

Do you plan on collaborating or playing other schools in your district or area? If so, explain how.

Through prior work experiences, Glassboro High School will easily be able to collaborate with Lindenwold Public Schools, Kingsway and Delsea Regional Schools. In addition, proximity and shared services with Clayton Public Schools will be used to support collaborative efforts among Unified activities. It is the hope of Glassboro High school to participate in the Delsea track event, compete with in-district bowling groups and potentially Lindenwold and Pine Hill bowling and to set up eSport competitions with Lindenwold and Pennsauken High School.

Is your school currently involved in a Special Olympics New Jersey traditional training program?

Glassboro Public School is currently not involved in the Special Olympics program. The District seeks to initiate involvement with Special Olympics through the development of its Unified Sports program.

Describe your plan for making your UCS programs sustainable. How will you support the Unified Champion School activities when SONJ funding ends?

Glassboro Public Schools seeks grant funding through the Special Olympics of New Jersey (SONJ) to support the planning, development and implementation of a Unified Sports program. It is the District's intent to sustain the program beyond the initial funding support through additional grant opportunities, community fundraising and local funds.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

Glassboro High School has already begun the process of establishing the Student Leadership Club as an activity offered through the Board of Education. It has been board approved as a club.

The Unified PE class has been established as a course option and will become part of the course selection process for all students.

Students have initiated an interest in eSports and it has been board approved as a club.

What are your plans for fundraising? Will you participate in the Cool School Challenge Plunge?

Buildings will work with the Student Leadership Club and parent advisories to support fundraising efforts. Since it is the intent of the district to maintain Unified activities beyond the support of SONJ, the Student Leadership Club will take on some of the responsibility on determining appropriate fundraisers for the community, such as car wash, bake sales and other donation collections. Glassboro Public Schools is receptive to participating in the Cool School Challenge Plunge as appropriate for the community.

GHS		
Building Coordinator Stipend	coordinate events, meetings, attend events; coordinate fundraiser, support reporting, attend with student reps SONJ meeting (\$1000 each seas	\$ 3,000.00
Coach Stipend	bowling coach \$525 (9 events; support club fundraiser), track coach (7 practices, 1 - 2 meets; support club fundraiser) \$525	\$ 1,050.00
Advisor Stipend	1 eSport advisor, 1 club advisor (10 meetings, 3 events, 1 fundraising event) \$525	\$ 1,050.00
Transportation	driver cost \$25/hour, bowling, field trips (appx.60 hours)	\$ 1,500.00
Facility Rental/fee	bowling trip (\$6.99/student x 25 x 9) \$1572.75 / roller skating \$250/ ledgends ballpark nerf game est \$400 / D&B \$400 / track meet fee \$400	\$ 3,022.75
Supplies/equipment	flaghouse - PE equip \$992.95; switch cases (\$15.99 x 7); club supplies \$2000 ; switch accounts \$20x7	\$ 3,244.88
T-shirts	club shirts \$7/shirt x 30 \$210 for new members if needed (sports, club, esports)	\$ 210.00
Water/Snacks	chips (\$45) water (\$13)	\$ 129.00
TOTAL		\$ 13,206.63