



Special Olympics
Alaska
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ISSUE 11/09

NOVEMBER 2009



December 19th, 2009

www.specialolympicalaska.org

Upcoming School Program Events

- Nov. 3** Mat-Su Elementary School Unified Bowling Event (North Bowl, 10-noon)
- Nov. 4** Mat-Su Elementary School Unified Bowling Event (North Bowl, 10-noon)
- Nov. 5** Middle School Unified Bowling Event (Center Bowl, 10-noon)
- Nov. 5** High School Unified Bowling Event in Anchorage (Center Bowl, 3-5pm)
- Nov. 11** ASD Elementary School Unified Bowling Event (Center Bowl, 10-noon)
- Nov. 13** High School Unified Bowling Event in Mat-Su (North Bowl, 3-5pm)



Project Unify: Special Olympics Project UNIFY started in 2008 as a year-long U.S. national project, funded by the U.S. Department of Education. The goal is to activate youth around the country. The Project UNIFY program engages schools to use the tools and sports programs of Special Olympics to create school climates of inclusion and respect for all students.

Presently there are 46 U.S. Programs conducting Project UNIFY school projects engaging more than 320,000 young people participating in projects in 1,200 schools. In Alaska the School Program is funded by Special Olympics Alaska, Alaska Department of Education and Early Development and Project UNIFY.

In Alaska, a formal school program began in 1997 with one school. Through the 2001 Special Olympics World Winter Games and partnerships such as the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development, the School Program in Alaska has now grown to over 50 schools and nearly 1500 students. We welcome the second year of Project UNIFY as a resource to our School Program.

Mission of Special Olympics Alaska School Program: To provide opportunities to Alaska youth through a partnership with Alaskan schools to support the mission of Special Olympics Alaska; to provide opportunities for youth with and without intellectual disabilities to participate in activities together; and to provide opportunities for the expertise and experience of Alaska Schools and Special Olympics Alaska to benefit from each other in working towards building lifelong skills through inclusive opportunities.

Partners Club®: A unique Special Olympics Alaska sponsored, school-based program. It teams students with and without intellectual disabilities through sports training and competition. This club also offers social and recreational opportunities.

Unified Sports®: A program that combines approximately equal numbers of Special Olympics athletes and athletes without intellectual disabilities (partners) on sports teams for training and competition.

Athlete: An individual with an intellectual disability.

Partner: An individual without an intellectual disability.

Coach: A school district personnel with a sports background that serves as a resource to the Partners Club® through assisting with Unified Sports®.

School Program Manager: A Special Olympics Alaska employee whose main focus is to manage the Special Olympics Alaska School Program and serve as a resource to teachers across the state.