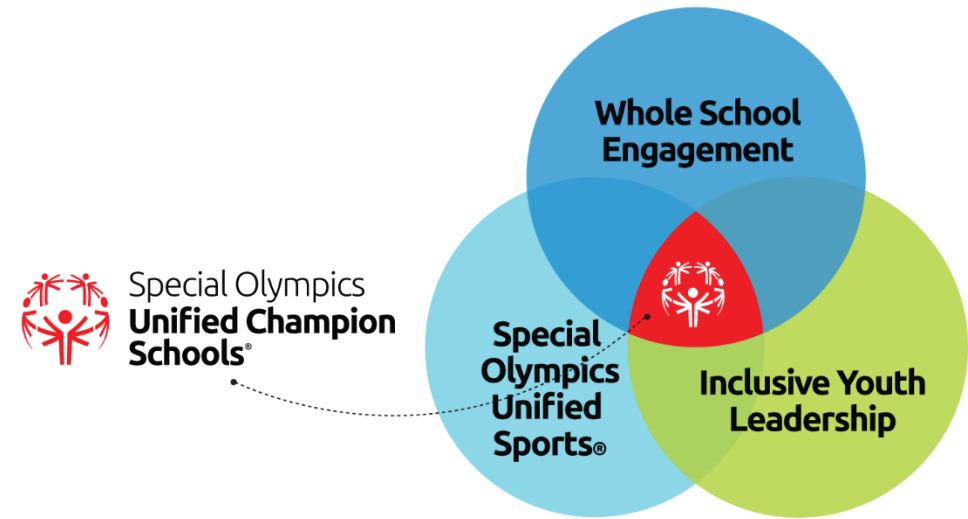


Return on inclusion: the UCS model and its impact

Unified Champion Schools (UCS) embeds inclusion into school life from PreK through college.

Unified Sports, inclusive youth leadership and whole-school engagement create repeated interaction among students with and without disabilities.

Evidence links participation to more positive attitudes, stronger belonging and social-emotional growth.



+1.1 pp

Graduation rate, all students

+1.4 pp

Graduation rate, students with disabilities

National graduation evidence

2,155 high schools, 2010–2016. Study compared UCS and non-UCS schools before and after implementation.

Academic gains, economic value and sustained impact

North Carolina study: 11 years of student-level data comparing UCS and non-UCS schools



13.8% higher

Reading scores
students with intellectual
disabilities



14.5% higher

Reading scores
students without disabilities



3.6% higher

Math scores
students without disabilities

175% ROI

**\$2.75 estimated benefits
per \$1 invested**

\$1,502 cost and \$4,131 benefit. AIR study
of six high schools.

What sustains the impact

Quality implementation integrates all three components and sustains participation over time.

Longer UCS exposure is associated with stronger academic outcomes and fewer attendance or disciplinary problems for students with disabilities.

18 years of annual evaluation inform program improvement, alongside targeted research.