

## What are Unified Sports?

The Arizona Interscholastic Association (AIA) and Special Olympics have joined together to create Unified Sports in schools.

The mission of Unified Sports® is to create an inclusive program that combines individuals with intellectual disabilities (athletes) and individuals without intellectual disabilities (partners) on sports teams for training and competition.

At CUSD Unified Sports are considered varsity sports. Each participant who completes the season and attends all required practices and events receive a Varsity Letter from their home school.

## What does the Unified Sports program look like at CUSD?

CUSD schools participate in unified cheer, flag football, track & field and basketball. Listed below are the time frames for each season.



**Cheer** – Cheer participates in practices and performances from September to February. Members of the unified cheer team practice weekly and cheer at all unified games as well as selected varsity football games and basketball games. In the past we have also performed at the AIA Regional Cheer Competition and during sports assemblies hosted by each school.



**Flag Football** – Flag football is in season from September to November. The Unified Football team plays games during the half time of JV games as well as their own games consisting of two 20 minute halves against other CUSD and FUSD schools. At the end of the season, participating teams will compete in a tournament.



**Track & Field** – Track & field is in season from February to April. Unified Track teams compete against each other at a minimum of two meets. We also participate in the Annual Chandler Rotary meet in March.



**Basketball** – Basketball season is from March to May. The Unified Basketball team plays full games consisting of four 8 minute quarters against other CUSD and FUSD schools. At the end of the season, participating teams will compete in a tournament.