



Special Olympics  
**Unified Champion  
Schools**

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Thursday, November 15

### **Contact:**

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## **CELEBRATING GEORGE WASHINGTON HIGH SCHOOL**

**WHAT:** Pep rally to present George Washington High School with the Special Olympics Unified Champion School National Banner

**WHO:** Students of George Washington will gather for a pep rally with special guests:

- George Washington Principal, Susan Thompson
- George Washington Athletic Director, Ken Geiser
- Assistant Superintendent Learning Network 8, Dr. Dion Betts
- Executive Director of Athletics, SDP: Jim Lynch
- President & CEO Special Olympics Pennsylvania: Matt Aaron
- Retired SDP Director of Health, Safety & Physical Education, BettyAnn Creighton
- Director, Special Olympics PA - Philadelphia Chase Trimmer

**WHERE:** George Washington High School (10175 Bustleton Ave, Philadelphia, PA 19116)

**WHEN:** Friday, November 16

**WHY:** Special Olympics has announced George Washington High School is receiving *recognition* as a *national banner* Special Olympics Unified Champion School® for its efforts to provide inclusive sports and activities for students with and without disabilities. The Special Olympics Unified Champion Schools program is aimed at promoting social inclusion through intentionally planned and implemented activities affecting systems-wide change. With sports as the foundation, Unified Champion Schools is based on a comprehensive three component model that combines Unified Sports®, Inclusive Youth Leadership, and Whole School Engagement to create school and community climates of acceptance and inclusion. George Washington High School is receiving this honor as a result of meeting national standards of excellence in the areas of inclusion, advocacy and respect.

**NOTE TO MEDIA:** Media is welcome to attend any portion of the event. Parking is available on-site. For interviews, please contact Kristin at [kcraven@specialolympicspa.org](mailto:kcraven@specialolympicspa.org) or 609-658-6003 (cell).

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