

**St. Johns Middle School**  
**LINKS & Unified PE Application**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

**Applicant Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Grade in 19-20:** \_\_\_\_\_

**St. Johns Middle School LINKS application**

St. Johns Middle School believes in the inherent value and potential of every student. We offer two peer-to-peer programs to support differently-abled learners to access and participate in our school to the highest level possible: LINKS and Unified PE. Below, read more about each of these programs, which benefit both the mentors and the supported peer student and support our school climate of inclusiveness and participation for all students.

**LINKS Peer-to-Peer Support**

**Overview of LINKS**

The student enrolled in LINKS Peer-to-Peer program will be a mentor, role model, and friend to a student with ASD or other disability. They will assist their assigned student in such things as appropriate classroom behavior and socialization, organization of assignments and supplies and focusing on what the teacher is saying. The LINK student will attend LINK meetings to discuss the program of their student and contribute ideas on how to more effectively help their assigned student to progress toward his/her goals.

**Curriculum for LINKS**

The LINKS Peer-to-Peer curriculum benefits students in a reciprocal manner. The LINKS student learns, through participation in the curriculum, to act as an advocate and a mentor for a student with a disability as they master content standards. The interactive nature of instruction enables the LINK to consistently broaden the range of opportunities for the student who has a disability. LINK students are engaged with students who have a disability throughout the school day.

**Meetings/Training for LINKS**

The LINKS student will attend a lunch meeting, once a week, for LINKS Peer-to-Peer training.

**Expectations for LINKS**

1. Weekly journals
2. Weekly lunch meetings
3. Final exam - One page reflection paper

**Unified Physical Education**

**Overview of UNIFIED PE**

Unified Physical Education is a class designed for students with a firm grasp on basic sports skills. Also for those who are interested in developing leadership skills and learning to work with students who have a disability that are of similar age. As a pair, students develop skills in various sports and finish each unit with a culminating activity. The program helps to build confidence and improve on important social skills, all while giving students a chance to create new friendships and feelings of self-worth.

**Curriculum for UNIFIED PE**

The unified physical education curriculum follows the adaptive physical education sports standards. The LINKS student learn, through participation in the curriculum, to act as an advocate and a mentor for a student with a disability as they master content standards. The interactive nature of instruction enables the LINK to consistently broaden the range of opportunities for the student who has a disability.

**Meetings/Training FOR UNIFIED PE**

Unified PE LINKS will attend a lunch meeting, once a week, for LINKS Peer-to-Peer training.

**Expectations for UNIFIED PE**

1. Weekly journals
2. Weekly lunch meetings
3. Final exam - One page reflection paper

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**Applicant Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Grade in 19-20:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Student LINKS/Unified Physical Education Application (Must complete in full.)**

1. Explain why you think you want to work with students with a disability as a mentor/ LINK?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. What are your expectations, based on what you know about the LINKS program:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. This will require enrollment in the LINKS class for an elective credit. Which elective class would you like to drop from your proposed schedule? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Middle School students enrolled in this program will serve as positive role models, mentors, and friends to their supported peers. Please rate your interest in the following areas:

Circle the number that best describes your capabilities:	Low					High				
Interested in helping students with ASD	1	2	3	4	5					
Interested in helping students with a disability	1	2	3	4	5					
Willing to learn mentoring skills	1	2	3	4	5					
Ability to model good study and social skills	1	2	3	4	5					
Strong skills in math	1	2	3	4	5					
Strong skills in reading	1	2	3	4	5					
Knowledgeable in science	1	2	3	4	5					
Knowledgeable in social studies	1	2	3	4	5					

**I am interested in participating in (Circle one or both.):**                      **LINKS**                      **UNIFIED PE**

Electives you have taken (please list):

**Teacher Recommendations:**

Please list **three of your current** teachers from whom you would like a recommendation. Mrs. Harden will give these teachers another form to complete for a formal recommendation.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_ 3. \_\_\_\_\_

**Signatures:**

I agree that this will be a beneficial experience for my child and support his/her involvement.

**Applicant's Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Guardian Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

***Please submit completed application to Mrs. Harden ([cormierm@sjredwings.org](mailto:cormierm@sjredwings.org)) by May 4, 2020.***