

A practical, evidence-based strategy that educators can implement today!

# Success Story: Transforming the Journey to Graduation

## The Challenge

Earning a high school diploma is essential for post secondary success. Approximately 30% of students with disabilities do not graduate high school with a diploma each year.

## The Solution

As part of California's Compliance and Improvement Monitoring (CIM) process, Anaheim Union High School District identified that only 65% of their students with disabilities were graduating each year. The team set an ambitious goal - to increase this rate by 10% in two years. With support from their SIL improvement coach, AUHSD tested out several ideas. They discovered two highly effective strategies: a student-centered scheduling process and monthly data reviews to ensure students remain on track to graduate.

## The Impact

Graduation rates for students with disabilities increased from 65% to 76% in two years, surpassing the original goal.

***"This initiative has transformed how we support students with disabilities—our graduation rates have never been higher!"***

Lauren Klatzker, Director, Special Youth Services,  
Anaheim Union High School District



Anaheim Union High School District staff

# Ways to Try This in Your District

## Steps to Implement

1. **Work in “systems” not “silos”** by enlisting a cross disciplinary team, including case manager, program specialist, counselor, and administrator.
2. **Schedule students with disabilities** first when doing master scheduling.
3. **Create and follow an on track to graduate** student monitoring schedule. For example, meet monthly review site data and quarterly top review district data.
4. **Review High School student’s progress** toward graduation at every IEP meeting.
5. **Present** district wide on track to graduate trends and findings at special education and district department meetings.



[Access the On Track to Graduate Monitoring Checklist](#)



[Access the Student Scheduling Blank Junior High Fly Up Form](#)



[Access the Student Scheduling High School Fly Up Form](#)



Created in partnership with Anaheim Union High School District as part of the SIL Innovating for Student Excellence (ISE) Networked Improvement Community.

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