

The following information is for media outlets for the purpose of assigning staff coverage to the event.

HOPE INC. TO VISIT CARL BEN EIELSON MIDDLE SCHOOL, ALLOW STUDENTS TO TRY WHEELCHAIR SOCCER

Sports can bring people together and provide a sense of community and inclusion. Carl Ben Eielson Middle School's students will have the opportunity to see how participating in a sport can help provide those key human needs as they play wheelchair soccer.

WHAT: Wheelchair Soccer in PE Class

WHEN: Monday, March 24 and Tuesday, March 25 (see schedule below)
WHERE: CONTACT: Sarah Stark, Carl Ben Eielson PE Teacher, stark@fargo.k12.nd.us or

701.446.1775 for more information.

Carl Ben Eielson Middle School's able-bodied students are getting a firsthand experience at a way their classmates with disabilities can find a sense of inclusion through participation in sports. HOPE Inc. will be visiting the school's physical education classes on Monday and Tuesday to let students try out wheelchair soccer.

HOPE Inc. founder Bill Grommesh will begin each class period by giving a short message about the importance of inclusion and showing kindness to those who might look different than oneself or have a disability. He will share personal stories about how physical disabilities have played a role in his life and how an accident can happen at any time that could take away a person's mobility. He will also share how even though a person may be disabled, they still desire human connection and a sense of inclusion, and sports can help to provide that.

Following the message from Grommesh, students will spend the rest of the period learning how to play wheelchair soccer and playing the sport. They will get into wheelchairs and get to share an experience with their disabled classmates. In some instances, Adapted PE classes will join in and play alongside their able-bodied peers.

This experience is sponsored by the Carl Ben Eielson Parent Teacher Association.

HOPE Inc. is a non-profit organization based in the Fargo-Moorhead metro area that provides family-friendly sporting and recreational opportunities critical to the health and development of children and adults with mobility challenges.

SCHEDULE

Monday, 10:24-11:08 a.m. Monday, 1:58-2:42 p.m. Tuesday, 10:24-11:08 a.m. Tuesday, 1:10-1:54 p.m. (includes Adapted PE class) Tuesday, 1:58-2:42 p.m. Tuesday, 2:46-3:30 p.m.

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