



Embry-Riddle Athletic Association hosts Food Brings Hope students December 14, 2012

Coaches and players from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University welcomed over 300 Volusia County Public School students and chaperones to the ICI Center from the Food Brings Hope program on Friday, December 14.

ERAU Athletic Director, Coach Steve Ridder, gave an inspirational talk about the value of always doing the right thing. Embry-Riddle student and basketball player Dan Mondragon spoke to the students about the importance of making good decisions and choices in order to reach their goals.

Keynote speaker, Coach Steve Lochte of Daytona Swim Club, and father of Olympic gold medallist Ryan Lochte, also spoke to the students. He encouraged them to dream big. "Everything starts with a dream. You must dream it to believe it and achieve it," said Coach Lochte. Your dream will become your reality with hard work, commitment, dedication, and discipline. Expect setbacks along the way, but do not give up until your dream is accomplished.

Food Brings Hope students from Turie T Small Elementary, Westside Elementary, Pierson Elementary, Starke Elementary, New Smyrna Beach Middle, Campbell Middle, New Smyrna Beach High School, Spruce Creek High, and Taylor Middle-High attended the event. After the motivational speeches, students were treated to pizza and dessert made by Eagles Booster Club. Students enjoyed watching the Eagles bring their team to victory! Each student received a basketball to take home as a memento of the evening.

Daytona Swim Club Coach Steve Loche



ERAU Coach Steve Ridder



About Food Brings Hope

Forough B. Hosseini, Senior Vice President of Information Systems for ICI Homes, founded Food Brings Hope six years ago. Food Brings Hope has made measurable progress in breaking the cycle of poverty for homeless and other economically disadvantaged students. Key components of the program include: providing nutritious meals, tutoring, rewards for improvement, and opportunities to participate in cultural and sporting events. For more information about Food Brings Hope, please visit www.FoodBringsHope.org or contact Beth Butera at beth@FoodBringsHope.org

"Food Brings Hope is a donor-designated fund of the Community Foundation of Volusia & Flagler, a tax exempt public charitable organization.