

Note to Team Captains:

The text below is a sample email to help you compose emails to send out to school administrators. The italicized text should be replaced with your name along with the correct information about Outreach dates and the Pro Speaker. Please contact your Regional Manager for help with scheduling Outreach dates and Pro Speaker(s).

Hello. My name is *Your Name*. I am working with Sports World to bring former professional athletes to speak in local schools. Sports World offers these speakers at **NO COST** to the school.

Sports World has scheduled *Ray McElroy, a former NFL player from the Indianapolis Colts* to be in our area the week of *April 11, 2023*. *Ray* encourages students to make positive choices, to stop bullying, and to be drug-free and alcohol-free. I'm contacting you to ask if we can get on your school schedule for the week of *April 11, 2023*. I have attached a flyer that explains more about what Sports World does along with a sample of the flyers that Sports World makes up to promote assemblies.

Again, there is no charge to the schools for an assembly. Local businesspeople are concerned for the mental wellbeing of students in your community and have underwritten the cost. *Ray* will share personal life experiences with your students, helping them to recognize the consequences of their choices. He will speak on making positive choices and other relevant social issues such as drug and alcohol, mental health issues, isolation and peer pressure while challenging students with The Message of Hope. This past November our program helped diffuse over 10 suicide plans in one community!

The assemblies are scheduled on a first-come, first-served basis, and I just wanted to see what day that week we might schedule to have *Ray* speak to your students.

Please view the attached flyers.

Thanks so much!

Let me know,

Your name

OUR MISSION

Sports World is sending former professional athletes into schools to share personal life experiences with students, helping them to recognize the consequences of their choices while challenging them with The Message of Hope.

Sports World Impacts Students on both Public and Private School Campuses

Students often lack self-esteem and face severe peer pressure, which may cause them to choose drugs, alcohol, or even suicide.

We Work to See Students Experience:

1. Place

To belong and be accepted

2. Purpose

*Who am I? Why am I here?
Where am I going?*

3. Pain Relief

*Healing from hurts: physically,
emotionally, and socially
Stop self-medicating*

4. Peace

*Relief from anxiety, worry, and
confusion*

5. Passion

*Building confidence as I move
forward in life*

Outreach Program

- 3-4 consecutive days, usually Tuesday through Thursday (Monday-Friday can be added.)
- Assembly program format (Length is usually 40-45 minutes.)
- Multiple assemblies can be held at the same school or at different schools throughout the day.
- Target groups are grades 3-12.

Age Groups

Our message is adapted to age group levels. For example, our Pro speakers would not want to give the same message to third and fourth grade students as they would give to middle school students. In that case, we would ask to split the grades into two separate assemblies. The same would apply to high school groups.

The average attendance for our programs is 400 students. We can speak to 1,000 or more students in a single assembly or have smaller group interactions and classroom-based presentations. **We prefer to speak to as many students as possible each day during the week of the outreach.**

Comment Cards

Administrators are asked to have each student bring a writing utensil to the assembly. Teachers and staff are asked to distribute comment cards to each student as they enter the assembly.

Towards the end of the assembly, the Pro speaker will ask students to write down their comments, including struggles or accomplishments, dreams and goals. The speaker lets students know that he or she will read each card, and often does so before leaving the school. Red flag or concerning cards are brought into the office so counselors and administrators can take necessary action to provide support for the student(s).

Students are given information regarding a free text-to-chat counseling service called Remedy Live. Sports World partners with Remedy Live to provide 24/7 text-chat support for individuals when they simply text the word "Choice" to 494949.

HOW SPORTS WORLD HELPS YOUR STUDENTS

Our Message

Sports World Pro Speakers help students understand that choices have consequences—for themselves and for other people. We challenge students to make positive choices that lead to a better future.

Young people are facing unprecedented levels of hopelessness, anxiety and depression. These struggles contribute to bullying, drug and alcohol abuse, suicidal ideation, and other social and mental health issues.

We help young people understand that their lives have meaning and value and that they have the ability to make positive choices that lead to a brighter future.

Our Pro Speakers tell their true life stories, transparently and honestly: their struggles and failures as well as their successes. Young people realize that they are not alone in their struggles—that someone they see as successful has experienced the same kinds of hurts and challenges they face and has made positive choices for success.

Students often respond by sharing their own dreams or secret fears and struggles on comment cards.

Because students have opened up to our Pro Speakers, Sports World has seen **over 1,000 students per month make commitments to be drug and/or alcohol free**. Through our text-to-chat counseling service, Sports World has **helped to diffuse over 300 suicide plans**.

*"You're not born a Winner;
You're not born a Loser;
You're born a **CHOOSER**."*



What does "faith-based" mean?

Sports World is a "faith-based" ministry. However, our Pro Speakers focus their talks on making positive choices. They do not preach or proselytize. As they talk about their own choices, speakers may state that their best personal choice was deciding to follow God.

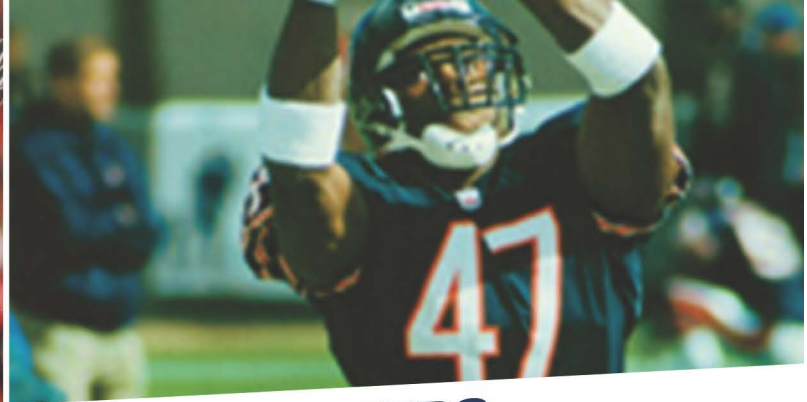
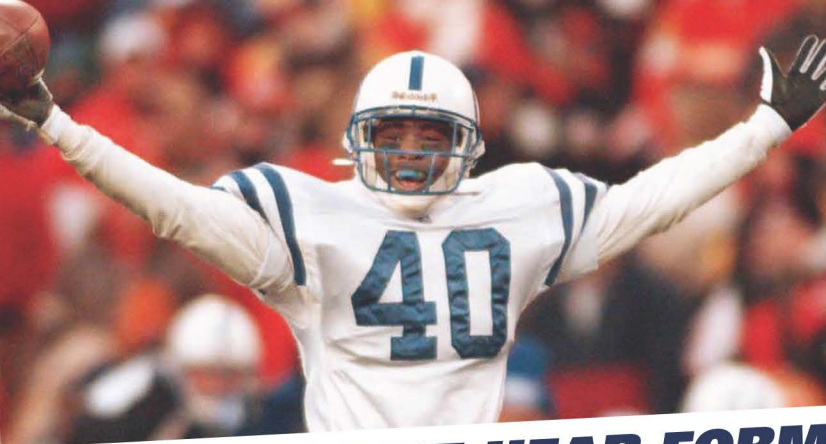
Pro Speakers are required to meet with the school principal or administrator prior to the assembly to review content. If school officials feel that this statement is not appropriate for their school setting, the speaker will respect their judgment.

Our goal is to encourage students: to lift them up, give them confidence to share their goals and struggles, and enable them to get the help they need.

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**COME HEAR FORMER NFL PLAYERS
SHARE THEIR REAL LIFE STORIES!**



Sports World Motivational Youth Speaker and Former Pro Athlete

**Ray
McElroy**

Each Sports World Pro speaks directly to life issues relevant to students, such as:

- Consequences of their Choices
- Academic Excellence
- Identity
- Respectful Relationships
- Peer Acceptance
- Achieving their Dreams

McElroy's talk will engage students while:

ENCOURAGING positive choices

EQUIPPING students for transformation

EMPOWERING them for success

Indianapolis Area Schools

Week of April 11, 2022

**ENCOURAGING
POSITIVE CHOICES**

You're not born a **winner;**

You're not born a **loser;**

You're born a **chooser!**[®]



SportsWorld's mission is to send professional athletes to share personal life experiences with students, helping them to recognize the consequences of their choices while challenging them with a message of hope.

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