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Eric Smith helping out kids

-Craig Thomas

The New York After-School All-Stars will host New York Jet Eric Smith for a visit with middle school children at I.S. 192 on Tuesday.

Smith will tour the after-school activities, followed by a Q&A session between Smith and the students in the auditorium and ending with a photograph and autograph opportunity. During the Q&A, Smith will share and relate his life experiences and path to success with the

attendees, as well as speak to the power and importance of after-school programming for at-risk youth.

Smith will be joined by Alan Fields, the Executive Director of After-School All-Stars New York, and Harriet Diaz, principal of I.S. 192.

This event marks the beginning of a partnership between Smith and After-School All-Stars' "Touchdown vs. Shutdown" program. Smith has generously agreed to donate to the charity on a per-tackle basis throughout the 2010-2011 NFL season. The donations help After-School All-Stars to provide after-school programming to at-risk youth in the New York area. The programs are designed to improve the participants' lives by incorporating academic support, enrichment, and health & physical fitness.

Founded by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger in 1992, After-School All-Stars is a national provider of year-round, school-based, comprehensive after-school programs that equip children with the skills and experiences needed to become productive members of the 21st century workforce. Every day, children participate in free programs that include academic support, enrichment opportunities, and health/fitness activities. The organization's mission is to keep children safe and help them succeed in school and in life. 80,000 children from families of poverty benefit in thirteen U.S. regions. This NFL season, After-School All-Stars is proud to partner with twelve NFL players in the Touchdown Shutdown program. For more information, visit www.tdshutdown.org