



Moon Area School District

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Bon Meade Fifth-Graders Take Unique Hockey Field Trip, Observe Pittsburgh Penguins Practice Session



Bon Meade students in Joe Espey's, Emily Talmage's, Jeanne Schreiber's and Kerrie Turner's fifth-grade classes took part in "Taste of the Game" on Feb. 26 along with Robert Morris University and Moon Area High School hockey players.

Bon Meade Elementary fifth-grade students hit the ice this week during a special field trip to the Iceoplex at Southpointe in Canonsburg.

Arranged by National Hockey League Director of Officiating and Bon Meade parent Stephen Walkom, the field trip was part of "Taste of the Game," an outreach program that combines the benefits of physical exercise and healthy nutrition with learning beginning hockey techniques.

More than 120 Moon Area School District fifth-graders took part in two presentations on Feb. 24 and 26 where students toured the complex, visited the Pittsburgh Penguins practice locker room and donned full hockey uniforms and equipment for hands-on lessons.

Nearly 60 students each day slapped hundreds of pucks and learned basic skating, stick handling and puck control from Robert Morris University women's and men's players and Moon Area High School hockey team members.

After each session, students enjoyed lunch while watching Pittsburgh Penguins players Evgeni Malkin, Maxime Talbot, Marc-Andre Fleury and Sergei Gonchar and the rest of the team hone their skills during a practice session. Moon Area is the fifth school district in western Pennsylvania to take part in the program, which Walkom hopes to implement on a larger scale bringing physical health topics to children through hockey.