



## Omega-Man Presentations Energize Polk County School children

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PHOTOS COURTESY OF OMEGA-MAN

Omega-Man has big dreams for Polk County's schoolchildren. Thanks to funding by the Polk County School Board, this superhero organization will impact many lives this month through character development presentations at 30 different schools.

Based in Lakeland, Florida, the 501(c)3 corporation Omega-Man Enterprise is operated by Marc Wilkes, a world-class athlete who performs extreme feats of power, strength, and speed to impress young people with a message of hope. The company's vision is to "Impact Children's Lives, One School at a

Time."

Ranked as one of the top motivational presentations for youth in our nation, many government officials continually endorse the Omega-Man assemblies. To date, students from elementary to college age have been challenged and changed by the positive character building messages in more than 6,000 gatherings.

Bodybuilding restored Wilkes' self-esteem and confidence after he suffered taunts as a youngster because of a speech impediment. When he realized children could

benefit through superhero special encouragement, he established his Omega-Man persona.

In conversations between Wilkes and countless school administrators, a common theme surfaced. In these extreme times, students need affirmation, motivation, and encouragement more than ever as they face a wide range of distractions and pitfalls. Bullying, peer pressure, temptations to use drugs and alcohol, unhealthy lifestyle choices, obesity, and criminal mischief can sidetrack students and hinder their destinies.

A good word in due season can make all the difference. Omega-Man's word is: "Your choices today determine your future." To reinforce this point, each attendee will also receive a 12-page Omega-Man activity booklet of character development pages and games.

This good word is also repeated throughout the attention-grabbing 45 to 60 minute presentations. Wilkes performs amazing feats of strength such as snapping baseball bats, ripping through phone books (a representative "book of negative choices"), and bending steel in his teeth. Once the crowd is engaged, principals, counselors, and teachers are impressed by how intently students listen to the message portion.

Dale Wolgast, Assistant Principal at North Wauchula Elementary, says students practice the message as well. After a recent performance, a consistently challenging second grader came to him, flexing his

muscles, and said: "Mr. Wolgast, I've been making good choices. I'm Omega-Man!" Wolgast realized that "Indeed, I had not had to address the boy's behavior for some time, so I checked with his teacher. Sure enough, he'd been doing his work, staying on task, and following class rules. This assembly was one of the best ever at our school."

Because many schools are financially unable to host an assembly, generous individuals or businesses often help defray the cost through sponsorships. Polk County would like to deliver the message in all 160 schools. Since we will only be known by the legacy we leave, why not help deliver the Omega-Man message? Wilkes encourages, "Now is the time to invest in our youth because their choices today determine their tomorrow. It's time to make a difference, to enforce our words with superhero action."

Wilkes will launch limited enrollment Omega-Man Fitness camps this summer to help children attain personal and fitness goals through education, encouragement and support. Group and individual sports and physical activities, nutrition and behavior modification classes, and an extended follow-up program will ensure fun and progress.

For tax-deductible contribution information, a schedule of upcoming presentations, or Omega-Man Fitness Camp registration, call 863-698-8323 or visit [www.omegamanschools.com](http://www.omegamanschools.com).

