

News release



Everett Public Schools

Sept. 27, 2012

For more information:

[Jodi Galli](#), DECA instructor, Cascade High School

Friday night football game to include halftime *Miracle Minute*

Cascade High School DECA student determined to help others

When the Cascade High School Bruins play Edmonds-Woodway High on Friday night, Sept. 28, more will be at stake than who earns the most touchdowns.

In addition to supporting a Bruin win, CHS senior Dara Vodder will be urging those at the game to donate to [Seattle Children's Hospital](#). Vodder and five of her DECA student peers will sprint through the stands for one minute during half time, collecting as much money as possible to help pay medical costs for uninsured children who need care at Children's Hospital.

Vodder explains that this is just one part of her school's fundraising effort to help young patients. During the week of Oct. 15, she is choreographing activities at Cascade to get her fellow students involved as well. "The week of Oct. 15-19 will be called 'Seattle Children's Hospital Week.' We'll be having a *Wall of Courage*, where students can purchase a red paper 'paw' where they can write the name of their heroes. This will be announced every day along with facts about the hospital, as well as an information day and a Support Dressed Up Day, when students will be asked to wear blue in support of the cause."

Vodder's motivation for this project is personal. At 14 years old, she was diagnosed with epilepsy, and her family had no insurance. As she explains, "Seattle Children's played a huge role in helping us get coverage, and they paid off the existing balance. This means a lot personally to me, and the support of the school, district, and Seattle Children's has been huge!"

In addition to doing good for others, Vodder's project is part of her senior year graduation project. "It's always exciting to work with students on their senior projects," said DECA instructor Jodi Galli. "It's particularly rewarding to see a student like Dara who combines her personal passion and commitment in a way that helps others."

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