



Quick Facts

Hero:

Eric Rhodes

Band Teacher

Age:

Adult

Saved:

Matthew, Student

"Everything was black around my peripherals and I couldn't see anything but him, so I just went straight for him"

-Matthew

EVERYDAY HERO STORIES:

Band Teacher Rescues Student

Matthew Noonan, an eighth grader at Burgaw Middle School in Burgaw, North Carolina, was in band class when he began choking on a Hershey Kiss.

"It went down my throat and as soon as that happened, I got up and apparently I barged through all of the stands and grabbed Mr. Rhodes. Everything was black around my peripherals and I couldn't see anything but him, so I just went straight for him," Noonan said.

Eric Rhodes, the first-year band teacher, began performing the Heimlich without a second thought. He successfully dislodged the chocolate, and Matthew was saved.

Rhodes humbly says that he just did what anyone else would do in the situation. If Rhodes was not there in the classroom, Noonan says he's not sure what would have happened.

Eric Rhodes is truly a Heimlich Hero!

