



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MEDIA ALERT – Monday, October 2, 2023
Fargo Public School District #1

NORTH FRESHMEN TO ATTEND CHARACTER-BUILDING RETREAT

Kindness, respect, courage, and honor are important character traits that can help people to positively impact the lives of those around them. The freshmen at North High School will spend the day this Wednesday developing these traits.

WHAT: North High School Freshmen Retreat
WHEN: **Wednesday, October 4** from 9-11:30 a.m. and 1:30-3:45 p.m.
WHERE: North High School, 801 17th Avenue North, Fargo
CONTACT: **Travis Christensen**, North High School principal, christt@fargo.k12.nd.us or 701.446.2400 for more information.

The ninth grade class at North High School will participate in a respect retreat on Wednesday, led by Rollie Johnson, an inspirational speaker and lay pastor at First Lutheran Church, and his team.

Rollie Johnson and his retreat team will focus on helping North create a positive school community by engaging retreat participants in a variety of activities that build students' empathy and teach safe ways to help prevent bullying, including:

- community building activities to foster stronger student-to-student relationships
- skills building activities to enhance self-awareness
- large group storytelling about respecting others and yourself
- small group discussions about respect concepts

The retreat reminds students that they are important, can affect change in their environment, and that there is a supportive community of educators, mentors, and classmates around them. Students are challenged with the message that someone acting with character does not make fun of or bully anyone for any reason. As bystanders, they are encouraged to stand up for the value of respect in their school hallways, lunch lines, and classrooms.

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