



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEDIA ALERT – Wednesday, November 15, 2023

Fargo Public School District #1

STUDENTS TO PUT TELL-TALE HEART NARRATOR BEFORE THE JUDGE IN MOCK TRIALS

Thump-thump. Thump-thump. Thump-thump. The sound of a dead man's heartbeat roars in the ears of a murder as he takes the stand. Will the jury know he did it? Or will 12 of his peers acquit him of his crime?

- WHAT:** Tell-Tale Heart Mock Trials
WHEN: **Friday, November 17** (see times below)
WHERE: Discovery Middle School, 1717 40th Avenue South, Fargo
CONTACT: **Crystal Ridl**, Discovery English teacher, ridlc@fargo.k12.nd.us or 701.446.3539 for more information.

As part of a unit on *The Tell-Tale Heart* by Edgar Allen Poe, Discovery Middle School eighth grade English students will participate in mock trials of the story's narrator during periods 2, 3, 4, 7, and 8 on Friday.

In the story, the narrator has murdered a man and hidden his body under the floor boards of his home. When the police come to investigate the missing man, the paranoid murderer begins to hear his victim's heartbeat in his own head. The heartbeat gets louder and louder and the murderer gets more and more paranoid until he finally confesses to the murder.

The mock trial assumes that the narrator has not confessed to the murder and he is now standing before a judge. Students will present evidence and testimony for and against the narrator as they carry out a trial. A member of the Discovery staff will serve as the judge and will pronounce the narrator either innocent or guilty.

Trial times:

- Period 2 (9:36-10:20 a.m.)
- Period 3 (10:24-11:08 a.m.)
- Period 4 (11:12-11:56 a.m.)
- Period 7 (1:58-2:42 p.m.)
- Period 8 (2:46-3:30 p.m.)

[END]