



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MEDIA ALERT – Wednesday, February 22, 2023
Fargo Public School District #1

NATIVE AMERICAN EDUCATOR AND COMIC BOOK ARTIST VISITING LEWIS & CLARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

The students at Lewis & Clark Elementary School are in for a day of learning about art, music, Native American culture, and the importance of family as a North Dakota-based educator and comic book artist visits the school.

WHAT: Native American Comic Book Creator Mark Mindt Visit
WHEN: **Friday, February 24 (see schedule below)**
WHERE: Lewis & Clark Elementary School, 1729 16th Street South, Fargo
CONTACT: **Melody Staebner**, Indian Education Coordinator, staebnm@fargo.k12.nd.us or 701.446.1054; or **Jason Cresap**, Lewis & Clark Principal, cresapj@fargo.k12.nd.us or 701.446.4804 for more information.

Mark Mindt, an educator and creator of the comic book KODA the Warrior, is visiting Lewis & Clark Elementary School for assembly presentations in the morning and art workshops in the afternoon on Friday, February 24.

During the three half-hour morning assemblies, Mindt will introduce KODA Two Hearts, the Native American superhero protagonist of his comic books. He will read from his comics and use music to emphasize the story's themes of the importance of family, being a relative, and showing respect for others.

During two 45-minute afternoon art workshops for the fourth grade classes, students will learn to use their imagination to tell stories through illustrations. They will learn how to draw a human face and an eagle feather. Mindt uses the eagle feather as a metaphor to explain the importance of daily school attendance, explaining that the more feathers an eagle has, the higher and farther it may fly, and the more days of school the students attend, the more they will learn and the farther they can go in life.

Mindt is a citizen of the Spirit Lake Dakota Nation and is a teacher with more than two decades of experience in education. Through the creation and development of his comic book series, KODA the Warrior, Mindt has had the opportunity to present at schools across North Dakota and the upper Midwest.

Schedule:

Morning Assemblies

- Grades K-1: 8:30-9 a.m.
- Grades 2-3: 9:15-9:45 a.m.
- Grades 4-5: 11-11:30 a.m.

Grade 4 Classroom Workshops

- Session 1: 12:30-1:15 p.m.
- Session 2: 1:30-2:15 p.m.

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