



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEDIA ALERT – Wednesday, March 6, 2024

Fargo Public School District #1

FIFTH GRADERS TO ATTEND COMPASSION RETREAT

Kindness, respect, and honor are important character traits that can help individuals positively impact the lives of those around them. The fifth graders at Longfellow Elementary School will spend the day learning and building these traits on Friday.

- WHAT:** Compassion Retreat
WHEN: **Friday, March 8** from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.
WHERE: Longfellow Elementary School, 20 29th Avenue North East, Fargo
CONTACT: **Eric Henrickson**, Longfellow principal, 701.446.5004 or henrice@fargo.k12.nd.us for more information.

As the fifth graders at Longfellow Elementary School prepare for the end of their time in elementary school and ready themselves to move on to middle school and the next stage of their academic journey, they will learn skills of compassion and respect they can take with them to their new school. The fifth graders will participate in a compassion retreat on Friday, 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 Longfellow 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.

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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