



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MEDIA ALERT – Tuesday, July 8, 2025
Fargo Public School District #1

FPS BOARD OF EDUCATION APPROVES DESIGN PLANNING FOR NEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AT HORACE MANN SITE

The Fargo Board of Education approved a recommendation to begin the design and planning phases for a new elementary school to be built at the current Horace Mann Elementary School site that will open in Fall 2028.

WHAT: New Elementary School at Horace Mann Site
WHEN: Construction to begin Summer 2026; new school to open Fall 2028
WHERE: Horace Mann Elementary site, 1025 North 3rd St, Fargo, N
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By unanimous vote at their July 8 meeting, the Fargo Board of Education directed administration to begin the first major capital initiative under Phase 1 of the District's [Long-Range Facility Plan](#). The new school will have the capacity to serve approximately 444 students in grades K–5 and consolidate the current Horace Mann–Roosevelt and Madison elementary school attendance areas into one centrally located facility on the Horace Mann site. Once completed, the Roosevelt and Madison school buildings will be closed. The new school is expected to open in Fall 2028.

Fargo Public Schools LRFP, approved in June 2024, reflects the District's ongoing commitment to equitable, sustainable, and future-ready learning environments. The new facility is designed to provide:

- **Improved learning environments** with updated, flexible, and inclusive instructional spaces, eliminating barriers created by aging infrastructure and split-campus arrangements.
- **Greater equity** by addressing facility disparities and ensuring consistent access to programs, resources, and services.
- **Financial stewardship** through consolidating buildings and long-term savings for staffing, maintenance, and utilities.
- **Strategic community impact** with future planning for repurposing or sale of the existing Roosevelt and Madison buildings.

During construction, Horace Mann students will be temporarily assigned to other school sites for the 2026–27 and 2027–28 school years. Final school assignments, transportation plans, and staffing details will be part of a comprehensive transition plan that will be developed this fall and published in December 2025.

The Board's approval also authorizes the District to issue a Request for Qualifications for architectural and engineering services; develop the transition plan for students and staff; and prepare for a bond issuance through the Building Fund to support the project's estimated \$45 million cost. Design development will begin in Fall 2025.

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