



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**MEDIA ALERT** – Monday, October 7, 2025  
**Fargo Public School District #1**

## **NORTH HIGH SCHOOL HISTORY TEACHER SELECTED TO TELL THE STORY OF ONE OF AMERICA’S SILENT HEROES**

North High School History Teacher Zach Hochhalter is among 61 teachers selected for [National History Day’s Researching Silent Heroes](#) program, sponsored by the [American Battle Monuments Commission](#), which maintains American military cemeteries and monuments overseas. Educators selected for this cost-free learning opportunity receive hands-on training to research and create a profile for a [Silent Hero](#), an individual who served in the United States military. The men and women researched for this series died during World War I, World War II, the Korean War, or the Vietnam War and are buried or memorialized in an American military cemetery cared for by the ABMC. Mr. Hochhalter is researching U.S. Army Private Clarence H. Overby, who served in World War II. Access the full press release from National History Day [here](#).

From now until March 2026, teachers will meet monthly with both a historian and a research specialist to set their Silent Heroes into historical context and learn strategies to research their lives. They discuss effective research strategies and learn how to deal with roadblocks that historical research creates, such as missing or incomplete records, alternate spellings, or reconciling memories with the historical record. When the teachers complete their research, they will write a profile for NHD’s [Silent Heroes](#) website. This work will be shared with the American Battle Monuments Commission for future use in their educational materials.

“National History Day’s *Researching Silent Heroes* program is essential to our work to improve the teaching and learning of history,” said Cathy Gorn, Ph.D., Executive Director of National History Day. “Thanks to the ABMC, teachers are exposed to unique primary source research about the lives of service members from twentieth-century conflicts. I look forward to the powerful profiles the teachers will write and how this learning will impact the way they teach their students about war and sacrifice.”

The 61 educators selected for this program represent 31 states and one international school. The Silent Heroes they have selected are buried or memorialized at 19 ABMC cemeteries. NHD honors the following teachers participating in this program and the Silent Heroes they chose to research:

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