



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEDIA ADVISORY – Friday, April 24, 2026

Fargo Public School District #1

FARGO SCHOOL DISTRICT TO STAGE EMERGENCY REUNIFICATION DRILL

Fargo Public Schools will stage an emergency drill to practice procedures to evacuate a school and reunify students with their families.

- WHAT:** Fargo Public Schools Emergency Reunification Drill
WHEN: **Tuesday, April 28** from **9 a.m. to 11 a.m.**
WHERE: North High School, 801 North 17th Avenue, Fargo
Clara Barton Elementary School, 1417 6th Street South, Fargo
CONTACT: **AnnMarie Campbell**, Chief Communications Officer, 701.446.1005
or campbea1@fargo.k12.nd.us for more information.

On Tuesday, April 28 beginning at approximately 9 a.m., Clara Barton Elementary School will conduct an evacuation exercise. Procedures will be started to evacuate the school's third through fifth grade classes in a simulated emergency evacuation, relocation, and reunification drill. The students and staff will practice evacuating the school and will eventually relocate to North High School via bus. Once at North, the Clara Barton students will proceed to the reunification location.

This is only a drill. There is no real emergency, and parents do NOT need to reunite with their Clara Barton students at North High School. Fargo Public Schools is staging the drill to test evacuation, transportation, and reunification processes to be better prepared should a true emergency occur.

Clara Barton and North students and their families have been notified of the drill. All Clara Barton students will return to the elementary school by 11 a.m.

Following the drill, FPS Coordinator of Safety and Emergency Management Josh Smith and FPS Superintendent Dr. Cory Steiner will be available for comment at North High School in the Commons area.

Clara Barton is a paired school with Hawthorne Elementary School with students in grades 3-5 attending Clara Barton and students in grades K-2 attending Hawthorne. Only Clara Barton will be participating this exercise.

This drill is unrelated to the lockdowns at North High School, Ben Franklin Middle School, and Washington Elementary School on Friday, April 17. This drill was scheduled prior to that event.

PLEASE NOTE: Media may **observe evacuation activities ONLY near the west side of Clara Barton Elementary School**; please do not enter the building or disrupt the evacuation process with interviews. **At North High School, media may ONLY set up in the Commons area** to view the simulated reunification process due to confidential security procedures being used and are asked to not disrupt the reunification activities.

[END]