



EVENT NOTICE – Wednesday, May 13, 2026
Fargo Public School District #1

The following information is for media outlets for the purpose of assigning staff coverage to the event.

**‘BIRTHDAY PARTY FOR AMERICA’ TO PROVIDE IMMERSIVE HISTORY
LESSON TO EXPLORER ACADEMY STUDENTS**

Explorer Academy is celebrating the United States’ 250th birthday by taking a firsthand look at how colonists lived in 1776.

WHAT: Birthday Party for America
WHEN: **Friday, May 15** from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.
WHERE: Explorer Academy, 1780 17th Street South, Fargo
CONTACT: **Emily Dilliard**, Explorer Academy principal, 701.446.4104 or dilliae@fargo.k12.nd.us for more information.

As the United States approaches its semiquincentennial, Explorer Academy Teacher Melissa Uetz is bringing the spirit of 1776 directly to students at the Birthday Party for America. The classroom setting will be transformed into an immersive historical festival that will show students what it was like to live in America at the time the country gained independence.

The students will celebrate the country’s milestone birthday with a multi-sensory celebration that will help them engage with the values, key individuals, and way of life in colonial America. They will eat historically accurate colonial-era food, make crafts that were common in colonial America, and read about historical figures who were important in the founding of the United States.

The students will also enjoy more traditional modern birthday treats and will receive an American themed swag bag.

Uetz was named the North Dakota winner of the Jack Miller Center’s Teaching America 250 Award. The award, which includes a \$5,000 grant, honors K-12 teachers in each of the 50 states and Washington D.C., who designed innovative, impactful projects to commemorate the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence.

[END]