



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**MEDIA ADVISORY – Thursday, April 18, 2019**

**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 23, 2019** beginning at **8:30 a.m. until 11:00 a.m.**  
**WHERE:** North High School, 801 North 17<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Fargo  
**CONTACT:** **AnnMarie Campbell**, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent, 701.446.1005  
or [campbea1@fargo.k12.nd.us](mailto:campbea1@fargo.k12.nd.us) for more information.

On Tuesday, April 23 beginning at approximately 8:30 a.m., Madison Elementary School will conduct an evacuation exercise. Procedures will be started to evacuate the school's kindergarten through fifth grade classes via buses to North High School in a simulated emergency evacuation, relocation, and reunification drill. Once at North, the Madison Elementary students will proceed to the reunification location, where North drama students will arrive to reunite with their student via the reunification process. A variety of reunification scenarios will be tested. ***This is only a drill.*** There is no real emergency, and parents do NOT need to reunite their Madison students at North High School.

Fargo Public Schools (FPS) is staging the drill to test evacuation, transportation, and reunification processes in an effort to be better prepared should a true emergency situation occur. This is the sixth time in recent years that the school district has staged an evacuation drill.

Madison and North students and their families have been notified of the drill through school announcements and Connect ED voice messages to the students' homes. All Madison students will return to the elementary school by approximately 11:00 a.m.

Following the drill, FPS Coordinator of Safety and Emergency Management, Mackenzie McCormick will be available for comment at North High School in the Commons area. Ms. McCormick serves as the reunification incident commander for Fargo Public Schools.

***PLEASE NOTE:*** Media may ***observe evacuation activities ONLY near the bus loop at Madison Elementary School, located in the north parking lot; 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]