

**NEWS RELEASE** | **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** | August 26, 2022

### **3 VEHICLE FATAL CRASH**

**What:** 3 Vehicle Fatal Crash involving a school bus  
**Where:** ND 200, 1/2 mile east of Picardville, at mile marker 221  
**When:** 3:40 PM Central Time  
**Road Conditions:** Dry, asphalt, good summer driving condition  
**Weather Conditions:** Mostly cloudy sky, 75 degrees, 10 mph winds  
**Crash Involvement:** Passenger car, 3/4 ton pickup towing a trailer, school activity bus  
**Type of Crash:** Head on  
**Agencies Involved:** North Dakota Highway Patrol  
Sheridan County Sheriff's Office  
McLean County Sheriff's Office  
Mercer Rural Fire Department  
McClusky Rural Fire Department  
Goodrich Fire Department  
North Dakota Department of Transportation

**Vehicle No. 1:** Tan, 2004 Chevrolet Impala  
**Driver No. 1:** Female, 35, Harvey, ND, Fatal  
**Restraints:** Not in use  
**Charges:** None

**Vehicle No. 2:** White 1997 Ford F250  
**Driver No. 2:** Male, 79, Underwood, ND Not Injured  
**Restraints:** Seatbelt in use  
**Charges:** None

**Vehicle No. 3:** White 2016 Chevrolet Express Van (School Bus)  
**Owner:** Turtle Lake/Mercer Public School  
**Driver No. 3:** Female, 47, Mercer, ND Minor Injuries  
**Restraints:** Seat belt in use  
**Passengers:** 9 children ages 10-12 years old Minor Injuries

**Restraints:** Not in use  
**Charges:** None

### **NARRATIVE:**

On 8/26/2022, at about 3:40 PM, on ND 200, at mile marker 221, ½ mile east of Pickardville, ND, a crash involving a school bus belonging to Turtle Lake/Mercer Public Schools, a Chevrolet Impala, and a trailer being towed by a Ford F250.

The Impala was westbound on 200. The pickup and bus were both eastbound. The bus was traveling from Turtle Lake/Mercer School to McClusky. The Impala drifted across the center line. The pickup steered right to avoid a collision. The Impala missed the pickup but struck the side of the trailer. The school bus was behind the pickup. The bus struck the Impala head on. The bus overturned onto its right side and came to rest in the intersection of ND200 and 1<sup>st</sup> Ave NW.

There were 9 children on the bus with ages ranging from 10 to 12 years old. The bus driver evacuated the children, and they were all standing on 1<sup>st</sup> Ave NW when units arrived. The bus driver and children all had minor injuries (bruises and scrapes). The bus driver and children were transported to the Turtle Lake hospital for evaluation.

The driver of the Impala was declared dead at the scene. The driver of the pickup was not injured.

ND 200 was closed between mile marker 220 and 223 for approximately 5 hours. Traffic was rerouted onto county roads during the closure.

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### **For More Information Contact:**

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