



NEWS RELEASE  
For Immediate Release

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## **PRESS ADVISORY/PHOTO OPPORTUNITY**

### **Meridian School to Host Mock Emergency Response**

*-- Simulated Heart Attack Will Emphasize Importance of having automated external defibrillators or AEDs available --*

**What:** Ada County in conjunction with St. Luke's Center for Heart and Vascular Health in cooperation with Meridian School District is holding a mock emergency response at Heritage Middle School, 4990 N. Meridian Rd., Meridian.

**When:** 3 p.m., Tuesday, May 19.

**Who:** A staff member at Heritage Middle School will suffer cardiac symptoms and other staff members will respond by calling 911 and then using the school's automated external defibrillator (AED) to treat the person. The Ada County EMS will respond to the 911 call and continue the treatment. Drill should take about 15 minutes. Interviews of all participants will be available.

**Why:** In recognition of National EMS Week and to raise awareness about the availability of AEDs in the Treasure Valley. AEDs are the best option to treat someone who experiences sudden cardiac arrest. Every year, nearly 300,000 people suffer an arrest and most of the attacks happen in a private or residential setting where trained medical personnel are not available. St. Luke's has a program that provides AEDs to junior and senior high schools free of charge.

### **About St. Luke's Public Access Defibrillator Program**

*St. Luke's has placed one or more AEDs in each junior and senior high school in the Boise, Meridian, Kuna and Eagle school districts. St. Luke's manages the upkeep of the equipment and offers free training to staff every year. To find out more about AEDs visit [www.suddencardiacarrest.org](http://www.suddencardiacarrest.org).*

### **About National EMS Week**

*The American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP) will kick off the 36th annual Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Week starting May 17 with events in communities across the nation as well as several national events organized around the theme "A Proud Partner in Your Community." To find out more about National EMS Week visit [www.emsweek.org](http://www.emsweek.org).*