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FOR RELEASE: Immediate

Farmington High School to Host Student/Parent Forum on Youth Suicide Prevention

Farmington, Michigan---Farmington High School Parent Teacher Student Association (FHS PTSA), Farmington Area PTA Council and Farmington Public Schools, with support from the Farmington Area Suicide Prevention Taskforce, are sponsoring a free student/parent forum on Monday, October 24 at 7:00 pm in the Farmington High School auditorium. "Youth Depression & Suicide: What Every Parent and Teen Should Know" is a follow-up event to the September 21 community dialog hosted by the Farmington Area Suicide Prevention Taskforce. Jeff Edwards, a national and state suicide prevention advocate, will be the featured speaker. Mr. Edwards lost his son Chase to suicide at age 12. Forum topics include recognizing signs and symptoms of depression and discussing specific actions parents and students can take if they suspect a teen is thinking about suicide.

Separate breakout sessions for students and parents will be held to facilitate an open and honest discussion about the issue of suicide in the community. Students will explore the myths of teen suicide and depression, learn what to do if they encounter a peer who needs help and have the opportunity to ask questions. Adults will have a panel discussion with Mr. Edwards, district and community organization representatives and community members impacted by suicide.

The event is open to the public. Farmington High School is located at 32000 Shiawassee in Farmington. Refreshments will be served.

This forum is one of a series of parent and student forums sponsored by local PTA and PTSA units in the Farmington Public Schools district. Topics are chosen by parents and students. More information is available online on the Farmington Public Schools website at www.farmington.k12.mi.us. Questions regarding the forum may be directed to Farmington Public Schools School/Community Relations at 248.489.3349.