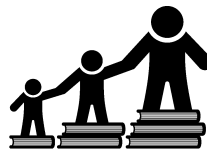


Press Release



Community Unit School District 303

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D303 Suicide Prevention Summit Continues

2nd Session Topics: School-Based Interventions and Student Perceptions

May 20, 2009

St. Charles Community Unit School District 303 is inviting the community to gather for the second session of the Summit on Suicide Prevention. The session will take place on Wed., May 27 from 7-9 p.m. in the Summit Room at Charlestowne Mall.

The featured presenter at the May 27 session will be Jerry Ciffone, School Social Worker at South Elgin High School. Mr. Ciffone has more than 20 years as a social worker and the primary focus of his work is suicide prevention and intervention. He has researched and developed highly effective awareness activities and a curriculum-based prevention program for students. His research has been published in the journal, *Social Work* (January 2007). Mr. Ciffone will share his experiences in development of suicide prevention programs.

Additionally, a panel of students from St. Charles East and North High Schools will provide their perspectives on emotional factors that impact adolescents. The students will offer their feedback on District 303's current efforts in student education and intervention regarding the topic of mental health and suicide prevention.

Two additional meeting dates remain, June 3 and June 10. The Summit Room is located on the lower level of the Charlestowne Mall just inside the Theater Entrance. Community members attending the Summit will view a presentation before taking part in small group, problem-solving sessions. The Summit on Suicide Prevention is open to all members of the community; students are especially encouraged to attend.

Community members who are planning to attend can RSVP by visiting www.d303.org. However, an RSVP is not required to attend this Summit session.

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