



Farmington High School

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June 3, 2010

Dear Parents of Farmington High School Seniors:

In a few weeks, our students will experience the joy and excitement of high school graduation and, for many, the beginning of college or living independently. This transition presents new challenges and risks. I am delighted to let you know about an innovative program for FHS seniors to support the transition to college or living independently:

FHS SENIOR SAFETY RETREAT **Friday, June 11 - 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. - Farmington Marriott** **15 Farm Springs Rd., Farmington**

Chris Garrahan, our school social worker, will moderate a special morning presentation that will feature Dr. Liz Jorgensen. This informative and entertaining session will give students a chance to learn about how their teenage brains work and how they can improve their capacity to make rational decisions. Two afternoon breakout sessions, one each for men and women, will follow. Those discussions will be around hazing, date rape drugs, the prevention of sexual assault, alcohol poisoning, cyber stalking, and identity theft, with personal safety tips.

The *For Women only* breakout session will feature the former Violence Prevention Coordinator of Trinity College, who herself has been a victim of sexual assault related to drinking. The *For Men Only* session will feature a man who will share his story of peer pressure and the traumatic consequences of high-risk alcohol and drug use. The breakout sessions also include Farmington Police Officers and Trinity College Campus Safety Officers discussing information about personal safety and legal consequences. The program will include excerpts from two acclaimed documentaries related to the signs and consequences of alcohol poisoning. The afternoon will conclude with a Q & A panel of recent FHS graduates who share their experiences, observations, and advice.

Because we feel strongly about the relevance of this program, all seniors are exempt from classes and are **required to attend**. Transportation will be provided for those who indicate a need and who sign-up in the main office by Thursday, June 10. Otherwise, students should arrive at the Farmington Marriott at 8:30 a.m. for attendance. Students that are unable to attend must have a parent phone the main office that morning to excuse their absence.

Lunch will be provided thanks to the generosity of our sponsors: FOCUS, CASAC, and The Hartford Marriott Farmington, to whom I extend special thanks for hosting this event and supporting our graduates.

Please take advantage of this opportunity to speak with your teen about what they heard. Together we can help keep your senior safe as they embark on this exciting time in their lives.

Sincerely,

Timothy M. Breslin, Ph.D.

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Principal