Forum Planned to Break the Conspiracy of Silence
National Speaker to Address Challenges Faced by Students

NEW SMYRNA BEACH — A forum to address the challenges facing today’s students will be held Thursday, March 6, at 6 p.m. in the auditorium at New Smyrna Beach High School, 1015 Tenth St., New Smyrna Beach. Dr. Scott Poland will be the keynote speaker, who is a nationally recognized expert on school crisis, youth violence, suicide intervention, self injury, school safety, threat assessment, parenting and the delivery of psychological services in schools.

The forum, “Today’s Students – Today’s Challenges: Parents and Community Matter,” is a proactive effort to reach out to families and the community on the national issue to end the “conspiracy of silence.” Attendees will come away with tips on how to assist children in making the right choices and advice on raising children in challenging times. The discussion will outline the problematic things that students face including bullying, technology, alcohol abuse, teenage driving, divorce and the pressure to perform academically.

Parents, students and community members are invited to attend this one-hour presentation and take part in a question and answer session at the conclusion. Joining together to become informed about how to safeguard children is an opportunity to prevent future tragedies and learn how to resolve issues that may otherwise go undetected. Dr. Poland has lectured and written extensively on these subjects, appeared on all major television network news programs, and has presented over 1,000 workshops in every state and numerous foreign countries.

This is the first of three forums planned for families of Volusia County School students. Additional forums will be held in northeast Volusia and west Volusia.

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