

# PRESS RELEASE



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## **Forney ISD to Host a Parent Education Night**

*Grant Halliburton Foundation to present information on how to keep teens safe*

**FORNEY, Texas** –The Forney Independent School District will host a Parent Education Night about how to keep teens safe. The presentation will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 9 at Forney High School at 6:30 p.m. and include a presentation by Vanita Halliburton with the Grant Halliburton Foundation. The event is free and open to all parents with Forney ISD students.

Halliburton is the president of the Grant Halliburton Foundation, a non-profit organization that works to raise awareness and understanding of adolescent mental health and suicide prevention. She speaks from the heart about her son's battle with depression and bipolar disorder and his suicide at the age of 19.

Halliburton's presentation will include information on how to recognize signs of distress in teens, promote brain health, foster resiliency and strong coping skills, safeguard teens against internet dangers, know the warning signs of suicidal behavior, find help for a struggling teen as well as how to implement protective measures to keep teens safe.

The Grant Halliburton Foundation was established in 2005 as a memorial to her son, a gifted young artist and musician who battled depression and bipolar disorder for several years before his death at the age of 19. He left behind a legacy of creative works, including musical compositions, journals of writing and poetry, and hundreds of paintings and drawings.

The American Psychiatric Association estimates that one in five young people in the United State suffers from a diagnosable, treatable mental illness. Yet, nearly two-thirds of them get little or no help. Even more disturbing is this fact that suicide is the third leading cause of death among adolescents. No other disease claims more young lives than mental illness.

For more information about the Parent Education Night presentation featuring Vanita Halliburton with the Grant Halliburton Foundation, contact the Forney ISD Counselor Coordinator, Kristi Hartwick at 972-564-4055 or by email at [kristi.hartwick@edu.forneyisd.net](mailto:kristi.hartwick@edu.forneyisd.net).

For more information about the Forney Independent School District, contact Larry Coker, Director of Communications at [larry.coker@edu.forneyisd.net](mailto:larry.coker@edu.forneyisd.net) or by phone at 972-564-4055.

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