

Miller Place Union Free School District

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March 11, 2015

Dear Parents and Staff,

I would like to thank the parents and staff who attended Mr. Halligan's presentation of Ryan's Story on Tuesday night. If you were unable to attend, information discussed can be reviewed at www.ryansstory.org

Mr. Halligan's Miller Place student assembly presentations were concluded today at North Country Road Middle School, where he spoke to all students in grades 6 - 8. Yesterday he presented to 9th and 10th grade Miller Place High School students.

Those that attended the presentations learned there are several very simple steps parents can take to begin the conversation with their child regarding the topics of bullying, cyberbullying, depression and suicide. For example, please take the time to ask your child:

If something went wrong, if you made a bad decision, or were too embarrassed to talk to your parents, who would you go to?

Can you name an adult you would consider your "go to person" in case you needed an option to speaking with your parents?

In this age of rapid changing and influencing social media and technology (I-phones, Internet, Twitter, Snapchat and video games) it can be very easy for your child, regardless of age, to make an embarrassing mistake. Please make sure they have a "go to" person to help them sort through the situations they may encounter and let them know there is never a problem that is so big that we cannot find a solution.

For your reference this email has been posted to the District website.

Thank you.

Dr. Marianne Higuera
Superintendent of Schools
Miller Place School District