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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Author, expert on bullying to present at Homewood-Flossmoor High School

Feb. 23, 2011 (Flossmoor, Ill.) — On Tuesday, March 8, Jodee Blanco — author of the *New York Times* best-selling memoir *Please Stop Laughing at Me ... One Woman's Inspirational Story* and its award-winning sequel: *Please Stop Laughing at Us ... One Survivor's Extraordinary Quest to Prevent School Bullying* — will present her acclaimed anti-bullying program, ***It's NOT Just Joking Around!***, for the Homewood-Flossmoor High School community as part of the school's free Parent Education series.

After surviving years of bullying, Blanco has made it her mission to save young adults and teens from experiencing or participating in bullying. Her memoir has been recognized as an essential resource by the National Crime Prevention Council, the Department of Health & Human Services and the National Association of Youth Courts, among other national, state and local organizations.

This free community seminar will begin at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, March 8, in the H-F High School Auditorium. Blanco will share what her parents and teachers did that helped her through her own adolescence, what worked and what didn't. The workshop will also include practical advice for parents on how to intervene if their child is a victim, bully or bystander. A book signing will follow Blanco's presentation.

H-F's Parent Education series will also include the seminar ***Parenting in 2011*** on Tuesday, March 2, at 7 p.m., when Robert Leece, professional counselor, will entertain and teach to the frustrations of parenting teenagers today. The series will wrap up for the school year with ***Bipolar in Adolescents***, presented by local psychologist Dr. David Gottlieb, at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, April 6.

Homewood-Flossmoor High School is a three-time National Blue Ribbon award-winning school, located at 999 Kedzie Avenue in Flossmoor, Ill. For more information on Blanco, visit jodeeblanco.com. For more information on H-F High School, visit hfhighschool.org or call 708-799-3000.

Homewood-Flossmoor High School is a comprehensive community high school located in the South Suburbs of Chicago. The district serves the villages of Homewood and Flossmoor, and portions of Chicago Heights, Glenwood, Hazel Crest and Olympia Fields. A tradition of excellence is the cornerstone of H-F – the result of commitment on the part of district residents to the idea of a community high school with high standards for students and staff, and a solid goal of excellence in education.

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