



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Chuck Jameson, FAN Communications, cbjameson@cj4.org

Evening lecture sponsored by Family Awareness Network of New Trier Township Schools (FAN), New Trier High School's ECGC Parent Committee, Glencoe D35, and Erika's Lighthouse.

Wednesday, February 8, Educating the Whole Student: Integrating Academic, Social and Emotional Learning, 7:00-9:00 PM, New Trier High School/Winnetka, Gaffney Auditorium, 385 Winnetka Ave., Winnetka, 60093. It's clear that social and emotional competence is essential to authentic success in adulthood. A confident, hopeful individual, versed in self-management strategies, resourceful, resilient, empathetic, ethical, respectful – isn't this the outcome so many of us desire for our children? In what ways can social and emotional learning (SEL) be taught in schools, and what sort of academic benefits derive from SEL skills?

In 1994, **Roger Weissberg, Ph.D.**, along with others, including Daniel Goleman, Eileen Rockefeller Growald, and Tim Shriver, co-founded the **Collaborative for Academic, Social and Emotional Learning (CASEL)** at the **Yale Child Study Center**. Now headquartered in Chicago, CASEL is the preeminent international organization committed to making evidence-based social, emotional, and academic learning an essential part of preschool through high school education. For the past three decades, Dr. Weissberg has trained scholars and practitioners about innovative ways to design, implement, and evaluate family, school, and community interventions.

For this program, Dr. Weissberg, a long-time resident of Wilmette, will reflect on his own family's experiences within New Trier Township schools, and his time spent in his children's classrooms. He will also broaden his scope and provide an overview of social and emotional learning (SEL), which was mandated in Illinois public schools with the passage of the Illinois Children's Mental Health Act of 2003. Dr. Weissberg will describe the benefits of a preK-12 SEL program, providing research about the links between academic success and SEL. He'll also describe CASEL's current ventures and future direction, particularly its national **Collaborating District Initiative**, supported in part by a new multi-million dollar grant from the **NoVo Foundation**.

After Dr. Weissberg's presentation, he will be joined at a panel that will include **Catherine Wang, Glencoe D35 Director of Curriculum**; **Ryan Mollet, Central School (Glencoe) Principal**; and **Tim Hayes, Assistant Superintendent for Student Services at NTHS**. Glencoe D35 has been utilizing CASEL-based SEL initiatives in its schools for the past two years; Ms. Wang and Mr. Mollet will discuss how D35 implements SEL programs within the district's school communities, and how parents can help develop their child's fundamental skills for life effectiveness. Mr. Hayes will offer information and insights about NTHS' SEL programs to create safe, caring learning environments.

Sponsored by the **Family Awareness Network of New Trier Township Schools (FAN)**, **New Trier High School's ECGC Parent Committee**, **Glencoe D35**, and **Erika's Lighthouse**. FAN is grateful for its 2011-12 partnerships with **North Shore Community Bank**; **NorthShore University HealthSystem**; **Quintessential New Trier** magazine; and **The Book Stall at Chestnut Court**. CPDUs available for education professionals; no pre-registration required. CEUs available for health professionals with pre-registration at the FAN website. All programs are free and open to the public. For more information, visit www.fan-ntts.org

