

**Wednesday, April 6<sup>th</sup> from 7 – 9 PM**

Location: **Juanita High School Theater (132<sup>nd</sup> St., Kirkland)**

## **Factors Influencing Teen Decision Making & Behaviors**

Presenters: *Bill Corson & Laura Doerflinger*

*In recent years, researchers have shed light on the many factors influencing teen behaviors. Well intended, involved parents are not immune from facing challenges with their students.*

The goal of this program is two-fold:

- To improve parents' understanding of the complex mix of factors that can result in questionable decision making by our teens
- To provide parents with reasonable strategies for guiding & monitoring their student

Topics covered will include the following:

▪ Teen brain development in brief ▪ The role of temperament ▪ Characteristics of leaders, followers; "group think" ▪ Risk factors ▪ The impact of different parenting approaches ▪ What is normal teen experimentation and when should you seek outside assistance ▪ The important role parents play in adolescence

**Bill Corson** is the current Redmond Junior High School Resource Officer. He has served as a school resource officer in this area for 7 years. In addition to 29 years in the police force, he has worked with teens in a variety of settings for over 30 years spending much of his spare time leading teen and adult groups on wilderness adventures. He is the parent of 4 adult children. Bill has a passion for serving youth & a great deal of insight into understanding adolescent behavior from many perspectives including law enforcement, parenting & recreation.

**Laura Doerflinger**, MS, a licensed mental health counselor, is the Executive Director of the Parent Education Group in Kirkland. She has been working with families for 17 years & has a great deal of experience working with students in the Lake Washington School district. Laura has two children ages 12 & 15. She understands the importance of establishing communication strategies within families. She is a wealth of information on how to access services appropriate to individual family needs. For more information about her work, go to <http://www.familyauthority.com/>

**Recommended for Parents of Students 7th grade & up**

Sponsored by the Lake Washington PTSA Council

Questions? Contact Joanne Hall, Chair, Parent Education at [lwsdparented@gmail.com](mailto:lwsdparented@gmail.com)