

**LOTTERY**

FROM PAGE A1

her daughter Victoria's name pulled ninth from a box. The eighth grader attends Warner Middle School.

"Most of her friends are going here (North Farmington High)," said Frederick, a Richmond Hill resident. "I'm happy I got in but it's a sad thing because we live north of 13 Mile and so many of our kids go to Harrison."

Jackie Laczowski, also a Westgate subdivision resident, expected that her son, Derek, a Warner eighth grader, would be disappointed. His number was 72.

"It's a social thing, she explained. Three of the Laczowski children went to Harrison, and the family is totally happy with the school. "He went to Highmound and a lot of his friends are at North Farmington," Laczowski said. "It would be nice if he could graduate with them."

The Farmington Public School board received some letters on the subject and will look at the sibling priority aspect of the issue during its 5:45 p.m. April 1 policy and board operations committee meeting. This policy and others will be discussed at that time at the school administration building on Shiawassee. Comments and questions are welcome. The meeting will not be televised.

The school board eliminated the sibling priority clause in 1997, due to a huge enrollment bubble that hit the high schools, Colliton said.

"When we didn't have a huge enrollment bubble in the high schools, that was not an issue ... you could pretty much let anybody go where they wanted to go because space was available," Colliton said. "Before that, people didn't pay attention to the sibling priority clause because they didn't need to."

The breakdown of School of Choice application requests in the Feb. 7 secondary level lottery were: 84 for Farmington High School; 80 for North Farmington; 44 for Dunckel Middle School and 21 for Harrison.

There were 12 requests for Power Middle, 11 for Warner Middle and six requests for East Middle, all of which were filled.

Farmington Public Schools Superintendent Bob Maxfield, who watched the lottery, said requests are often made because families want to keep students together with their friends. It's important to maintain class size to maintain the same array of programs, he said.

The School of Choice application announcement is published in November. "In our district, K-12, the openings are determined by space available in the building," Colliton said.

The district is concerned both about class size and the viability of programs, Colliton said. "We need to think about the needs of all children."

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**DIVERSITY**

FROM PAGE A1

10th-grade Mercy High student. "I wish the entire school saw this."

Sexual orientation was one of about a dozen student-led sessions during "The Next Generation: Coming Together, Society's Children Speak."

Farmington staff looked on during the sessions, but this year students wanted to take a larger, leadership role. Many served as facilitators for breakout sessions; Rob Escott from Farmington High School and Mariko Greening of Harrison High School led the sexual orientation discussion.

Both serve on the 2002-03 Student Diversity Committee.

"I wanted to know what it was about," Greening said.

Escott said a school group he belongs to has some gay members, and he also wanted to know more about the subject.

Greening led off the discussion with the question, "Would you want to be on a team if you knew someone was gay or lesbian?"

"Yeah," came a unified chorus of answers. Some replies carried the tone, "Why not?"

Though students don't mind attending school with gay or lesbian students, some heterosexual students worry they will get "hit on" if a gay or lesbian student finds them attractive.

Homosexual students are more accepting of other people, some students noted.

While older generations may find the



Students at the diversity conference listen to Michael Fowlin's presentation focusing on issues common to young people.



Keynote speaker Michael Fowlin presents "You Don't Know Me Until You Know Me", a one-person show that deals with race, violence prevention, discrimination, personal identity, suicide, gender equity, homophobia, and the emotional pain felt by special education children. He portrays nine different characters who share their stories in a humorous and sometimes heartbreaking manner.

topic uncomfortable to talk about, students said they are less hesitant to discuss it. Some parents are more geared to traditions and the "model family."

"That's not always the case, however. "Some households are just open and accepting," said Natalie Gerlands, a Mercy High senior.

Accepting someone's homosexuality was just one issue. Insensitive, derisive

and hurtful language was another concern.

Comments like, "That's so gay" and demonstration of behavior with stereotypical hand movements and voice intonation were others.

"How does that make a person feel?" one student asked. "They never say, 'That's so lesbian.'"

The conference also included discussions about cafeteria cliques and a panel

with local media representatives talking with students about how various cultures are portrayed in news coverage of the metropolitan and local areas.

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**28th ANNUAL**  
 WHEN: THURSDAY, MARCH 12, 2003 10:00 a.m. - 8:30 p.m.  
 WHERE: BURTON BRICK 3777 Burtwood Avenue, Michigan (South of 138 and West of I-94)  
 WHO: EMPLOYEES of Companies Serving the Heat & Steam Industry (MEMBERS of Heat Exchangers and Managers)  
 CELEBRATION PRESENTED BY: Interceptor, Cynthia L. Resnik, P.M., Resnik, Resnik & Company, PC  
 Open registration for members of: Heating Managers, Furnace Managers, Heat Exchanger Managers, company location: 1501 West 100 Street, Livonia, Michigan  
 COST: \$28.00 a Card Table (Includes Dinner) \$27.00 for Reservations  
 CELEBRATION PRESENTED BY: 11:00 pm. Customer Service Booth for Property Managers 1:00 pm. 300/27 When You Need to Know 2:00 pm. Property Managers  
 Chat for all individuals interested by 11:00 pm for same meeting - \$28.00 for late registration - \$45.00 for all other. Use Check # at (248) 471-1323 for reservations.  
 SPONSORING COMPANIES: Competitive manufacturers events will be being shown throughout the City. Be sure to arrive or come close the "festival" on to victory! Club Details at (248) 471-1323 for reservations.  
 FOR GENERAL INFORMATION AND BOOKING RESERVATIONS: Bill Resnik, Director 248-471-1323 Dan Gorman, CFO 248-471-1323

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