



Parent Communication Network



Edina Parent Communication Network
Quarterly Newsletter

September 2005

PCN Calendar

Why Do They Act That Way?

A Survival Guide To
The Adolescent Brain

Dr. David Walsh

October 3, 2005

Advocacy vs. Interference

Jean Illsley Clarke

November 7, 2005

Understanding Emotional Intelligence

January 23, 2006

NATIONAL SPEAKER FORUM

Dr. Michael Gurian

Boy and Girls Learn Differently

February 13, 2006

Having the Hard Talks

March 16, 2006

Transition to Kindergarten

April 25, 2005

Edina PCN, partnering with the Edina Public Schools and Our Lady of Grace School parent organizations, is entering its eighth year of offering parent education forums. During the past year, our curriculum committee took input from Edina Public Schools strategic planning, forum attendees and community organizations to formulate this year's curriculum.

We have recruited top-notch speakers on the issues you want to hear about! We kick off our year with **Dr. David Walsh**, talking on his very popular book— **Why Do They Act That Way—A Survival Guide to the Adolescent Brain.**

Our November speaker is Jean Illsley Clarke, local author and parenting expert who has shared her wisdom with generations of parents. She will be speaking on the subject of ***Advocacy vs. Interference: Raising Responsible Children.***

Last February PCN hosted Dr. Robert Brooks who spoke extensively on empathy and emotional intelligence as key components in raising competent, successful and resilient children. Our January 2006 forum will address ***Understanding Emotional Intelligence.***

The Edina school district has made gender education a priority in its strategic planning. Edina educators recently had the opportunity to hear Dr. Michael Gurian address the minds of boys and how to effectively reach boys in the school system. Edina PCN is hosting Dr. Michael Gurian as our National Speaker presenting, ***How Boys and Girls Learn Differently.*** Mark February 13th on your calendar.

Our last two forums address the oldest and youngest school age children. In March, we will tackle another issue in parenting teenagers - ***Having the Hard Talks.*** This forum is designed to help parents raise difficult topics such as drugs, alcohol and suicide with their teenagers and preteens.

As always, we end our year with ***Transition to Kindergarten.*** This forum is helpful to parents of a first time or third time kindergartner!

If you are anything like me, parenting books are difficult to fit into a busy schedule. I have found that these two-hour forums six times a year give me parenting insight and a chance to connect with other parents—I call it my Continuing Parent Education! I hope you will join me and the our dedicated PCN volunteers for a forum (or six)!!

Jayne Tuttle
Edina PCN President

Visit our website at www.edinapcn.com

October Forum

Dr. David Walsh

Why Do They Act That Way?

A Survival Guide to the Adolescent Brain

Monday, October 3, 2005

7:00 - 9:00 PM

Our Lady of Grace School

PCN is proud to announce the return of Dr. David Walsh, Ph.D., local psychologist and nationally recognized speaker and author. Dr. Walsh is president of The National Institute on Media and the Family and has recently published Why Do They Act That Way?

Dr. Walsh will unlock the mystery of teen behavior. He will reveal the real instigator of adolescent angst and havoc - and it's not hormones or peer pressure!

Understanding teen brain development is key to understanding and staying connected with your teen. Learn strategies for dealing with teen issues such as curfews, disrespectful behavior and sexual issues.

Dr. Walsh will give strategies to parents for helping teens develop a "second brain" to help them control impulses and cope with their changing bodies and changing lives.

Don't miss this opportunity to gain insight about adolescence—a time that can be challenging to both parents and teens!

Dr. Walsh's book will be on sale the night of the event.

Key Development Assets Covered

- Neighborhood Boundaries
- Adult Role Models
- Interpersonal Competence
- Cultural Competence

November Forum

Jean Illsley Clarke

Advocacy vs. Interference

Raising Responsible Children

Monday, November 7, 2005

7:00 - 9:00 PM

Cornelia Elementary

You may heard the hype on the "helicopter parenting syndrome" - parents who hover over their children, then swoop in to "advocate" on their behalf in school, sports and friendships.

Many of today's parents carefully plot their children's sports, activities and school career, dedicating themselves to forming a "perfect" person. Some parents become their kids' friend and forget the discipline and structure kids need in order to grow up.

Many employers feel that today's young workers don't have a good work ethic. More young people are being supported by their parents well into adulthood. Is this a result of helicopter parenting?

Where is the line between helping children make good choices and hindering them with too much parent intervention? How can parents use failures and mistakes as learning tools?

Jean Illsley Clarke is a noted parenting expert and author who will share her experience and insight on raising responsible children. She is the author of How Much is Enough? and other parenting books.

See our website for additional information & resources.

Key Development Assets Covered

- Decision Making
- Service to Others
- Youth as Resources
- Adult Role Models

A Look Ahead

Dr. Michael Gurian National Speaker Forum

Boys and Girls Learn Differently
Monday, February 13, 2006
7:00 - 9:00 PM
Colonial Church
Tickets available in October

Dr. Michael Gurian has been called “the people’s philosopher” because of his ability to bring together people’s ordinary lives and scientific ideas. Dr. Gurian is a pioneer in bringing neuro-biology and brain research into schools and public policy. He has written over twenty books including the bestsellers The Wonder of Girls and The Wonder of Boys.

Dr. Gurian will discuss the differences and similarities between boys and girls brains and how they affect learning. In addition, he will explore how brain differences influence the way boys and girls process emotion and develop self esteem at school.

How do girls learn math versus how boys learn math? Science? Reading? Dr. Gurian shows how brain scans and other scientific tools help us determine underlying elements that factor into learning.

With years of research and practical application, Dr. Gurian’s experience and knowledge helps parents, educators and school officials provide an optimal learning environment for both sexes.

Tickets: \$12.00 in advance
 \$15.00 at the door

Available on-line at www.edinapcn.com and through PCN members beginning in October.

Key Development Assets Covered

- Achievement Motivation
- School Engagement
- Positive View of Personal Future

What is PCN?

PCN’s Mission Statement

Edina PCN (Parent Communication Network) serves the community by providing education and dialogue opportunities for families and educators of children grades K-12.

PCN’s Goals

- ◆ To provide an array of information for families and educators about topics related to personal, social and academic development of students
- ◆ To deliver compelling educational forums that address issues relevant to the community
- ◆ To provide opportunities for families and educators to dialogue with experts and other parents in a non-threatening environment
- ◆ To facilitate the building of assets and life skills for children

Who is PCN?

PCN is a community organization comprised of volunteers from each of the Edina Public Schools and Our Lady of Grace (OLG), a private school in Edina, as well as other community members.

How is PCN Funded?

PCN is funded by Parent/Teacher Organizations from Edina Public Schools and Our Lady of Grace, community grants, and from proceeds of ticket sales for PCN’s annual National Speaker Forum.

All PCN forums are free, with the exception of the National Speaker Forum. Ticket proceeds from this event are applied to the National Speaker’s fees, transportation and lodging expenses and the cost of hosting the annual Educator Forum for Edina/OLG district staff.

Parenting Resources

- **PCN's website**
www.edinapcn.com
Contains author bios, directions to forums, links to community organizations, and resources for upcoming and previous PCN forums. Purchase tickets online for PCN's National Speaker event beginning in October.
- **Edina Family Center**
Offers parenting classes for SCHOOL AGE parents of students grades K-9. Call 848.3988 for more info, or view the Edina Family Center catalog online:
Select the **Edina Family Center** from the "Community Ed" drop down menu at <http://www.edina.k12.mn.us>, click on the Family Center catalog and scroll down to page 8 for details on classes.
- **Edina Resource Center**
952.848.3936
www.edinaresourcecenter.com
The perfect resource connection for families. From PCN forums, to library events, to resources for the elderly, the Edina Resource Center is your connection to the community.
- **Edina School District Website**
www.edina.k12.mn.us
School district info and links to community resources for families of school-age children. Check the one-stop shop for resources on the **Parent Resource Page** available from the "Parents" drop down on the school district website or at <http://parents.edina.k12.mn.us>.

PCN Board & Positions 2005-2006

President	Jayne Tuttle
President Elect	Liz Abt-Ellenberger
Treasurer	Julie Champ
Secretary	Sarah Hall
Program Operations	Cathy Groat
Marketing	Kristi Butterfield
Marketing Assistant	Teresa Luterbach
National Speaker Co-Chairs	Kim Boisvert
	Kelly Beck O'Sullivan
Curriculum Chair	Theresa Brunker

PCN School Liaisons

Concord Elementary
Beth Webert 920.8563
Angela Lee 920.1404

Cornelia Elementary
Nancy Miller 928.0482
Cecily Johnson 928.0937

Countryside Elementary
Jayne Tuttle 920.1329
Susan Lundquist 996.9071

Creek Valley Elementary
Cathy Groat 829.0099
Cyri Prescott 944.2415

Highlands Elementary
Teresa Luterbach 926.1991
Kim Boisvert 926.7360

Normandale Elementary
Caroline Fancher 925.2204
Kate Boyer 926.7446

Our Lady of Grace
Liz Abt-Ellenberger 927-0698
Mary Jo Cole 928-3960

South View Middle School
Mary Peterson 929.0747
Theresa Brunker 925.2685

Valley View Middle School
Barb Hatch 944-1343
Kristi Butterfield 929-8233

Edina High School
Kari Fedje Rasmus 922.0163

For general questions or feedback, please contact:

Jayne Tuttle
PCN President
952.920.1329
Email:
contact@edinapcn.com

Edina PCNewslne is published in September, November, January and March.
This newsletter, more information & resources can be found at www.edinapcn.com