

# 7<sup>th</sup>

# Annual PIC Conference for Parents

## Year of the Family

Saturday, October 18, 2014 at 8 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

White Oaks Secondary School, 1330 Montclair Dr., Oakville L6H 1Z5

**Keynote Speakers: Mary Jean Gallagher and George Couros**



**Mary Jean Gallagher on  
"Improving Student Achievement:  
What Makes the Difference?"**

Mary Jean Gallagher is the Chief Student Achievement Officer of Ontario and Assistant Deputy Minister of Student Achievement in the Ministry of Education. In addition to leading Ontario's

improvements to teaching and learning, over the past five years she has provided advice and development programs to governments and educators from a number of countries, including Denmark, South Africa, Peru, and the Bahamas.

She brings to this role a deep knowledge of teaching, learning and leading. Over a career of 40 years she has been a teacher of mathematics and computer science, a principal, a superintendent of staff development, and Director of Canada's southernmost school district. She served as Chair of the Council of Ontario's Directors of Education in 2006/07 and was Chief Executive Officer of Ontario's Education Improvement Commission.

Mary Jean has a deep commitment to community, sharing her leadership skills with organizations such as the Essex County District Health Council, the United Way, the Steering Committee for Leadership Windsor-Essex and Rotary.

In recognition of her work, Mary Jean was named the 2013 Phi Delta Kappan Educator of the Year and was the recipient of an Honorary Doctor of Laws degree from the University of Windsor in 2006.

**George Couros on  
"Involving Parents in the  
Process of Learning"**

George Couros is the Division Principal of Innovative Teaching and Learning for Parkland School Division and an Innovative Leadership Consultant. He has worked with all levels of school from K-12 as a teacher, technology facilitator, and school-based administrator. He is a sought-after speaker on the topic of innovative student learning and engagement and he has worked with schools and organizations all over the world. George is also the creator of Connected Principals, the founder of Connected Canada, as well as the School Admin Virtual Mentor Program (#SAVMP). His focus is to help organizations create optimal learning environments for innovation within schools.

Although George is a leader in the area of innovation, his focus is always on the development of leadership and people and what is best for kids. He uses humour as a way of connecting with all of those that he works with. His presentations are known to be both informative and entertaining, yet create an emotional connection that helps people move to the next level. His mix of research, personal stories, and practical ways to implement new learning help participants feel comfortable in taking risks in their own learning. You can learn more about George at his site [georgecouros.ca](http://georgecouros.ca).



## WORKSHOPS (Open Format)

### ELEMENTARY

- Play-Based Primary Science + Technology
- 21st Century Learning - Learning through Inquiry, Exploration and Discovery
- Numeracy - Number Talks/Mental Math
  - DreamBox Learning
  - How Can I Support My Child at Home With Mathematics?
- Ten Literacy Activities for Adolescence
- Building Inclusion & Safe and Inclusive Schools
- SAVIS - Setting Personal Boundaries

### SECONDARY

- Course Selection 101
- Changes & Choices: Transitioning from Grade 8 to 9
- Pathways to Success
- SAVIS - Healthy Relationships (teens)
- Parenting Through the Transition to Adolescence
- Teen Mental Health

### ELEMENTARY/SECONDARY

- Differentiated Learning Styles and Gifted Education
- Building Student Success by Engaging Parents
- ADAPT - Know the Deal - Teen Drug & Alcohol Use in Halton
- Blended Learning Online - Making Individualized Learning a Reality
- French as a Second Language Program
- Teaching Kids to Set "FAB" Goals to Build Success
- Our Digital Footprint

## Schedule of Events

**8 - 8:45 am**  
Registration & Breakfast

**8:45 - 8:55 am**  
Welcome & Introductions

**8:55 - 9:55 am**  
Mary Jean Gallagher  
Keynote Speaker

**10:00 - 11:00 am**  
George Couros  
Keynote Speaker

**11:15 - 12:15 pm**  
"A" Session Workshops

**12:15 - 1:30 pm**  
Nutrition Break &  
Community Displays

**1:30 - 2:30 pm**  
"B" Session Workshops

The Parent Involvement Committee is pleased to host our 7<sup>th</sup> Annual PIC Conference for Parents. This is a FREE conference.

**On-line registration begins August 15, 2014 at**  
<http://www.hdsb.ca/Community/PIC/Pages/welcome.aspx>

or you can register at your child's school.

For inquiries, please contact:

Joanne Basta at 905-335-3663 ext. 3294 or [bastaj@hdsb.ca](mailto:bastaj@hdsb.ca)

- Community awareness displays
- Interpreters will be provided upon request - American Sign Language
- We offer FREE child minding, upon request, at White Oaks Secondary School
- A light breakfast and lunch will be provided (FREE)