



# Parenting Matters!

## Early Childhood Education Symposium



**Saturday, Oct. 15, 2011      8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.**  
**The Summit Country Day School**

### **Symposium Presentations**

**8 a.m.**

**Registration: The Summit Country Day Lower School**

**8:30 a.m.**

**Welcome: Rich Wilson, Head of School, The Summit Country Day School**

**8:45 a.m.**

**Keynote Address: Raising Goodness: How To Raise Kids with Good Hearts Who Do The Right Thing**

How do you raise kids with good hearts who do the right thing? What really matters in raising a productive, responsible child? You will learn proven strategies that boost empathy, conscience, and self-control. You will leave not only inspired but also provided with the powerful tools you need to build your child's moral intelligence and leave a lasting legacy on his or her life.

**Michele Borba, Ed.D.** is an internationally renowned educator, award-winning author, parenting expert and child and adolescent expert. She is recognized for her practical, solution-based strategies to strengthen children's behavior, character, and social development, and to build strong families. A sought-after motivational speaker, she has presented workshops and keynote addresses throughout North America, Europe, Asia and the South Pacific and has served as an educational consultant to hundreds of schools. Her proposal: "Ending School Violence and Student Bullying" (SB1667) was signed into California law in 2002. She offers realistic, research-based advice culled from a career of working with over one million parents and educators worldwide.

Dr. Borba is an NBC contributor who has appeared over 80 times as parent expert on the Today Show as well as countless talk shows including: Dr. Phil, The View, The Tyra Banks Show, Fox & Friends, Geraldo & Friends, The Doctors, CNN American Morning, Countdown, and The Early Show. She appears regularly on Fox Headline News and CNN Headline News to discuss late-breaking news and has been interviewed by numerous publications including *Newsweek*, *People*, *U.S. News & World Report*, *Reader's Digest*, *The Globe and Mail*, and *People*. She has consulted for corporations such as RC2 Learning Curve West, Office Depot, Splenda, WalMart, Similac, Galderma, Johnson & Johnson and McDonald's Global Moms Panel. She serves on boards for *Parents* magazine, Character Education Partnerships, Boys & Girls Clubs of America, and writes the blog, "Parenting Solutions" for iVillage.

She is the award-winning author of 23 books including *Nobody Likes Me, Everybody Hates Me!*, *No More Misbehavin'*, *Don't Give Me That Attitude!*, *12 Simple Secrets Real Moms Know: Getting Back to Basics and Raising Happy Kids*, *Building Moral Intelligence* (cited by Publishers Weekly as "Among the most noteworthy of 2001"), *Parents Do Make A Difference*, and *Esteem Builders* (used by 1.5 million students worldwide). Her latest book is *The Big Book of Parenting Solutions: 101 Answers to Your Everyday Challenges and Wildest Worries* (Jossey-Bass).

Her numerous awards include the *National Educator Award* (presented by the National Council for Self-Esteem), *Santa Clara University's Outstanding Alumna Award* and the award for *Outstanding Contribution to the Educational Profession*, presented by the Bureau of Education and Research. She was named the *Honorary Chairperson for the Implementation of Self-Esteem* in Hong Kong and served as a consultant for the *Center Resource Group for Character Education and Civic Engagement* for the U.S. Department of Education.

Dr. Borba is a former classroom and college teacher and has had a wide range of teaching experience, including work in regular education as well as work with children with learning, physical, behavioral, and emotional disabilities. She and her husband were partners in a private practice for troubled youth. Dr. Borba received a Doctorate in Educational Psychology and Counseling from the University of San Francisco, a MA in Learning Disabilities, and a BA from the University of Santa Clara, and earned a Life Teaching Credential. She lives in Palm Springs, California with her husband and has three grown sons.

### **Education**

- Doctorate in Educational Psychology and Counseling; University of San Francisco
- Masters in Learning Disabilities; Santa Clara University
- Life Teaching Credential; San Jose State University
- BA in History/Psychology; University of Santa Clara

### **9:45 a.m. Session Block I**

#### **Navigating the System: Identifying and Supporting Children with Challenges in Learning and Attention:**

Gretchen Carroll, Education Coordinator, Special Education Department, The Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center

Does my child have a deficit or delay in language, learning, or attention? How do I differentiate between normal development and a potential problem? This session will explore key elements in the identification of children with learning and attention difficulties. Families will also be provided with practical tips on how to support learning and attention, build relationships with teachers, and determine appropriate interventions for their child.

#### **Montessori Education in the Modern World and at Home**

Carrie Biales, Montessori Consultant, Cincinnati and Dayton Public Montessori Schools

This workshop will address the connection between home and the Montessori classroom and the types of things parents can do to support their child's success at school. Math, language, social studies, and self-help skills can all be fostered by engaging in simple activities at home. Learn more about how to maintain interest in these types of concepts without the use of a computer or television screen.

#### **Why Arts Are Smart**

Catherine Batchellar, Dean of the Otto Budig Cincinnati Ballet Academy  
Amy Briggs, Assistant Curator for School Based Learning, The Cincinnati Art Museum  
Jacqui Haas, Director of Pilates and Dance Medicine, Wellington Orthopedics  
Becky Slater, Lower School Music Faculty Member, The Summit Country Day School  
Tricia Sunbeck, Former dancer Cincinnati Ballet, Ballet Instructor, The Summit Country Day School

Ballet, Art, Music and Movement, this session will explore the importance of the arts in a young child's development. Panel members will provide parents with opportunities and ways to encourage their child's artistic growth. Research shows that early music instruction is strongly correlated with later academic achievement. This presentation will focus on the musical development of children from birth through adolescence and will offer practical advice for what types of music instruction are appropriate for each developmental stage. Exposing your child to dance, visual, and musical arts develops their creativity as well as their confidence as learners. Learn creative, fun ways to encourage your child through a variety of the arts!

### **How to Develop A Math Mind**

Julia Almaguer, Math Specialist, The Summit Country Day School

This presentation is about underlying skills that parents can facilitate that will lead their children to math success. Research tells us that children are more likely to be successful learners of any subject when parents actively support their learning. Find out more about developing a strong math foundation for your child and why it is important for them to solve problems, reason, and communicate. This presentation will focus on ways that children can have fun while building a strong base for math success. Connections will be made between the prerequisite skills and some of the math that they lead to. Math games, books, and web sites will also be shared.

### **10:45 a.m. Session Block II**

#### **Our Environment, Our Health: The Big Awakening:**

John Sacco, MD, Radiation Oncologist, Oncology Hematology Care, Inc., University of Arizona Fellow of Integrative Medicine

We are entering into unprecedented times. Chronic diseases are threatening to overburden the already financially weakened healthcare system, while byproducts of modern industrialization add further insult. Our precious children remain most vulnerable. Knowledge is, however, powerful, and knowing a few simple facts can lead to some solutions we can all live with. This session will review some of these solutions that we can all begin to implement today.

#### **The Montessori Advantage In The Early Years**

Crystal Dahlmeier, Associate Executive Director, Children Inc.  
Karen Koch, Lead Faculty Member, Advanced Enrichment, The Summit Country Day School  
Lauren Mahoney, Lead Faculty Member, Toddler Program, The Summit Country Day School  
Phyllis Schueler, Director, Montessori, The Summit Country Day School

Why is Montessori education an advantage today? Montessori is based on powerful and unique ideas that are supported by 100 years of academic excellence and scientific brain research on early childhood development. One might ask: Why is Montessori education gaining recognition and producing more schools today? Why do Montessori students have a greater understanding and appreciation for learning? Today, scientific research validates what Dr. Maria Montessori knew over century ago. We will discuss Montessori methodology, sensitive periods, and connections to current brain research.

#### **World Language Acquisition: Why It Is Important To Begin Now**

Amy McDonald, Montessori/Lower School Faculty, French, The Summit Country Day School  
Katia Palek, Montessori/Lower/Middle School Faculty, Spanish, The Summit Country

Day School

Yngrid Thurston, Lower/Middle School Faculty, Spanish, Director of Diversity and Inclusion, The Summit Country Day School

Discover educational best practices in world language acquisition. The Summit Lower School World Language Team will explain the importance and benefits of an early start in world language education. They will recreate activities done in the classroom that align methodology and cognitive brain research to ensure that students have long-term retention and FUN!

### **The Video Game Craze and Malaise, What Every Parent Needs to Know**

Brenda Judd, Faculty Member, Arlitt Child and Family Research and Education Center, University of Cincinnati

Video gaming has many benefits and disadvantages. Everyone is playing from preschoolers to Naval Aviators. There are even schools dedicated to teaching solely via video games and computers. This presentation looks at the history and evolution of television and video games along with the pros and cons. If you have a son or daughter that games too much on video systems and would like up-to-date research and effects on the brain development, this is the presentation for you. Come and learn how you can help your child do all that life has to offer outside the media malaise.

### **11:45 a.m. Lunch Session**

#### **Friendship Matters**

Dr. Borba

Friendship Matters: Rejection, teasing, solving conflicts, here is everything you need to help your child find, make and keep friends, character matters. Boost your child's empathy, stand up and do what's right, learn self-control, peaceful conflicts, to give and become a charitable kid, This session will focus on the top friendship skills and how to teach them. Parents will learn their role is critical in this process.

### **12:45 p.m. Session Block III**

#### **From Helicopter Parents to Free Range Kids, Getting Parent Involvement Just Right**

Terrence Malone, Ed.D., Lower School Director, The Summit Country Day School

In this session Dr. Malone will navigate you on a journey through the research on parenting from John Dewey to current scholars. The research is compelling: there is a good way and bad way to parent! Dr. Malone will share with participants the preferred parenting methods. He will discuss the media buzz of *over-parenting* and *free range kids*, and he will present his own study on parenting and what teachers in America's best schools are seeking. This session is designed as a workshop where participants will roll up their sleeves and discover themselves in the continuum of parenting.

#### **Is Your Child Gifted or Just Smart?**

Dr. Suzanne James, Licensed Psychologist, specializing in the assessment and treatment of gifted individuals

Dr. Victoria Ragsdell, Licensed Psychologist, adolescent and family therapy

Nicole Schild, LCSW, independent licensed social worker for the states of Kentucky and Ohio

Having a child who is gifted is so much more than having a smart child. Concerns regarding personality characteristics and temperaments, sensitivities, social issues, educational concerns, emotional issues, and parent training are only some of the many facets gifted individuals and their families face on a daily basis. This talk will entail a brief review of the characteristics of gifted individuals including the many triumphs and trials they face regularly, as well as individual and school recommendations that will assist your child in achieving to their potential.

**Speech – Language Intervention: More Than Just /s/ and /r/ Signs and Symptoms of Delays, Disorders and Deficits that Impact Learning**

Sharon K. Collins, M.S., CCC-S/LP, Director, Cincinnati Center for Improved Communication, Inc.

Speech and language skills are critical to a student's success both in school and in life. While most parents are familiar with the intervention available to correct obvious articulation errors, speech-language intervention addresses a wide variety of delays, disorders and deficits that can impact learning for students. This presentation will focus on identifying and explaining the signs and symptoms that comprise such speech-language issues.

**Developing a Love of Learning in Your Child**

Helen Clark, Faculty Member, Lower School, The Summit Country Day School  
Cammie Corder-Nelson, Librarian, Lower/Middle School, The Summit Country Day School  
Michele Kaegi, Lead Academic Faculty Member, Montessori, The Summit Country Day School

There are many definitions of what constitutes learning. At their core, these definitions acknowledge that learning occurs through experience or teaching. Our focus is twofold. The first will be on suggesting methods that guide parents in fostering their child's love of reading. The second focus will be to offer strategies to assist parents as they lead and follow their child's pursuit of the joy to be found in the experience of learning.

**1:45: Join us in the Atrium Area for Lower School tours!**

The Summit opened the doors to a new Lower School in August, 2004. The child-centered facility enhances programming by inspiring exploration, hands-on activities and social learning experiences. The Lower School facility houses eleven Montessori classrooms for children in the Toddler Program through Kindergarten. Grades 1-4 of the Lower School are housed on floors two and three. The Summit's Lower School space features two state-of-the-art science laboratories, Math and Literacy enrichment classrooms, world language classrooms, a technology laboratory, two libraries, a spacious music studio for dance, movement and drama, a beautiful art studio with a kiln, a regulation sized gymnasium, synthetic turf playing fields, two health clinics, a dining facility, parent volunteer spaces and two playgrounds.