



***Mind in the Making:  
Executive Function in Action***

featuring

**Ellen Galinsky**

*President and Co-Founder, Families and Work Institute*

*Author, Mind in the Making*

**December 11, 2014**

Turf Valley Conference Center  
Ellicott City, Maryland

## Keynote Speaker

---



### Ellen Galinsky

Ellen Galinsky, President and Co-Founder of Families and Work Institute (FWI), helped establish the field of work and family life during the time she was at Bank Street College of Education, where she was on the faculty for 25 years. Her more than 100 books and reports include the best-selling *Mind in the Making: The Seven Essential Life Skills Every Child Needs*, *Ask The Children*, and the now classic *The Six Stages of Parenthood*. She has published over 300 articles in journals, books and magazines.

At the Institute, Ms. Galinsky co-directs the [National Study of the Changing Workforce](#), the most comprehensive nationally representative study of the U.S. workforce—updated every five to six years. She also co-directs [When Work Works](#) (a project on workplace flexibility and effectiveness as well as conducted the [National Study of Employers](#), a nationally representative study that has tracked trends in employment benefits, policies and practices since 1998. Information from FWI's research has been reported in the media more than three times a day since January 2010. In 2011, the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM) and Families and Work Institute formed a groundbreaking, multi-year partnership that takes When Work Works out to employers in 50 states.

At FWI, [Mind in the Making](#) (MITM) is an unprecedented effort to share the science of children's learning with the general public, families and professionals who work with them. Projects include: Learning Modules for Teachers (in English/Spanish) that have been implemented in 10 states; Seven Essential Skills Learning Modules (in English/Spanish) that are being implemented in six communities through community schools with funding with the W.K. Kellogg Foundation in partnership with the Institute for Educational Leadership and in an additional eight communities /systems; a DVD collection of 42 videos showing important experiments in child development research; Prescriptions for Learning—downloadable tip sheets for health care professionals and others; and a partnership with First Book with a library of children's books and accompanying tips to promote life skills. *Mind in the Making* has sold more than 100,000 copies and had more than 2 billion media impressions since April 2010. It was named one of the top ten nonfiction books by *The Washington Post* in May 2014 and was voted the Number 1 must-read book for preschool teachers by Child Care Exchange in June 2014.

A graduate of Vassar College and Bank Street College of Education, Ms. Galinsky is a leading authority on work family and child development issues. She was a presenter at the 2014 White House Summit on Working Families, the 2000 White House Conference on Teenagers, and the 1997 White House Conference on Child Care. She served as the elected President of the National Association for the Education of Young Children. She is the recipient of numerous awards, including the 2004 Distinguished Achievement Award from Vassar College and the Seven Wonders of the Work Life World from *Working Mother* magazine. She was elected a Fellow of the National Academy of Human Resources in 2005 and is the recipient of the 2014 Friend of Children Award from the Southern Early Childhood Association. She was honored as one of the 40 Women to Watch Over 40 for 2014.

# Program

---

**Registration** 8:30 – 9:00 AM

**Continental Breakfast**

**Opening/Remarks** 9:00 – 9:20 AM

Welcome

Louise J. Corwin, Executive Director  
Ready At Five

Remarks

Dr. Lillian M. Lowery, State Superintendent of Schools  
Maryland State Department of Education

**Keynote** 9:20 – 10:30 AM

*Ellen Galinsky (An Overview of the Importance of Executive Functioning)*

**Interactive Table discussion**

**Q & A**

**Break** 10:45 – 11:00 AM

**Panel** 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM

*Executive Function In Action*

**Lunch** 12:15 – 1:00 PM

**Concurrent Workshops** 1:15 – 2:45 PM

- A. *Vroom: Brain Building Moments* - Jackie Bezos
- B. *Fairfax County: Schools + Community + Mind in the Making = School Success* - Kim Dockery, Maura Burke, Anne-Mari Twohie & Betsi Closter
- C. *Libraries and Museums as Brain Building Partners* - Andrea Camp, Mimi Howard
- D. *Mind in the Making: Professional Development, Family Engagement and Community Building* – Erin Ramsey
- E. *Books Building Partnerships: Engaging Parents and Community Partners through Literacy* - Candace Radoski

**Adjournment** 3:00 PM

## Panelists

---



**Jackie Bezos** - President and Co-Founder, Bezos Family Foundation

<http://www.bezosfamilyfoundation.org/>

Through investments in research, public awareness, and programs, the Bezos Family Foundation aims to elevate the field of education and improve life outcomes for children birth through grade 12. Mrs. Bezos has pioneered partner-driven initiatives such as the Bezos Scholars Program at the Aspen Institute, The Aspen Challenge and Students Rebuild, engaging young people as co-creators of powerful solutions for current issues. Bezos and her husband, Mike, established the foundation in 2000, and along with their three children and spouses, serve as the foundation's directors. A graduate of the College of St. Elizabeth with a B.S. in Psychology, Bezos serves on the board of directors for the Institute for Learning and Brain Sciences (I-LABS), Robin Hood Foundation, Families and Work Institute, Thrive by Five Washington, and the Character Lab. She also serves as an Advisor to TED-Ed and on the Advisory Board of Global Nomads Group.



**Kim Paddison Dockery, Ed.D.**

Kim Paddison Dockery is Chief Academic Officer for Fairfax County Public School in Fairfax, Virginia. FCPS is a division of 186,000 students enrolling over 13,000 kindergartners every year. Dr. Dockery oversees the Department of Instructional Services, the Department of Special Services, and the Office of Student Testing. As division champion for School Board Achievement Goal 2, Essential Life Skills, she leads the FCPS focus on "the ability of all students to demonstrate the aptitude, attitude, and skills to lead responsible, fulfilling, and respectful lives". Currently the FCPS partnership with Fairfax County Office for Children and partnering universities focuses on the area of executive functioning skills.

Dr. Dockery has worked in education for over 30 years first as a teacher in and then Assistant Principal, Principal, and Assistant Superintendent in FCPS. Dr. Dockery received her Bachelor of Arts degree from Colorado Women's College and Master's of Science degree in Early Childhood Education from Wheelock College in Boston, MA. She completed her special education endorsement at George Mason University, and doctorate degree at the University of Virginia in the area of Administration and Supervision: Educational Leadership.



**Susan Hildreth** - <http://www.ims.gov/>

On January 19, 2011, President Obama appointed Susan Hildreth to be director of the Institute of Museum and Library Services. The nomination to her new post was confirmed by the US Senate by unanimous consent on December 22, 2010.

Hildreth is the former city librarian of Seattle where she managed the Seattle Public Library, which includes the world-renowned Central Library and 26 new and expanded branches.

Hildreth was the former state librarian of California and prior to her 2004 appointment by California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, Hildreth was city librarian of San Francisco.

Hildreth was president of the Public Library Association and served on its board of directors. She was an elected member of the council that governs the American Library Association. She was a longtime member of the California Library Association and served as its president and treasurer.

Hildreth graduated cum laude from Syracuse University and holds a master's degree in library science from the State University of New York at Albany and a master's degree in business from Rutgers University.



**Erin Ramsey** - <http://www.mindinthemaking.org/>

Erin Ramsey is the Director for Mind in the Making at Families and Work Institute and is responsible for the overall implementation and development of partnerships for Mind in the Making. Erin facilitates Mind in the Making Learning Institutes to a wide range of audiences about the importance of promoting executive function life skills in early childhood. She creates tools and resources for families, educators, medical professionals and communities to help them and their children thrive.

Ms. Ramsey has worked for over 20 years in the early childhood field and began her career as a family child care provider and preschool teacher. She later served for 12 years as Executive Director of 4C of Southern Indiana, Inc., a child care resource and referral agency, where she developed the organization and several programs that were nationally recognized. Ms. Ramsey also served as the director of public relations for a statewide child care resource and referral agency and was the Director of Early Childhood for the Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation, the third largest urban school district in Indiana.



**Kyle Zimmer** - <http://www.firstbook.org/>

In 1992, Kyle Zimmer, then a corporate attorney, was volunteering regularly at a soup kitchen in Washington DC. Realizing that the kids she was working with had no books to call their own, she set out with some friends to remedy the situation.

Twenty-one years and more than 110 million brand-new books later, Kyle continues to lead First Book, the nonprofit social enterprise she co-founded to ensure that local schools and community programs across the country serving children from low-income families would have a steady supply of the brand-new, high-quality books they so desperately needed.

First Book has pioneered groundbreaking new models, including the [First Book Marketplace](#), an award-winning, self-sustaining program that purchases new books and makes them available to educators and program leaders at affordable prices, and the [First Book National Book Bank](#), which serves as the nation's largest clearinghouse for new books donated by publishers.

Kyle currently serves as a member of the Board of Directors for Ashoka, which works to ensure that social entrepreneurs and their innovations continue to inspire a new generation of local change-makers to create positive social change. She also serves on the Youth Venture Board of Directors and as a member of the board for James Patterson's ReadKiddoRead.

In 2013 Kyle was a presenter at the University of Oxford's "Power Shift: Forum for Women in the World Economy" at the Saïd Business School at Oxford. She was a presenter and blogger at the World Economic Forum in Beijing in 2012, served as a member of the World Economic Forum's Global Agenda Council on Social Entrepreneurship, and was a presenter at the World Economic Forum in Davos in 2010. In 2009, Kyle was honored as a Carle Honors Angel Award recipient. She was named the first-ever American Marketing Association Nonprofit Marketer of the Year in 2008 and Outstanding Social Entrepreneur of the Year in the United States in 2007 by the Geneva-based Schwab Foundation for Social Entrepreneurship. - See more at: <http://www.firstbook.org/first-book-story/first-book-leadership#zimmer>

## Workshops

---

**A. *Vroom: Brain Building Moments* - Jackie Bezos**

New science tells us that our children's first years are when they develop the foundation for all future learning. Every time we connect with them, it's not just their eyes that light up - their brains light up too! Vroom turns shared moments into brain-building moments. Whether it's mealtime, bath time, or anytime in between, there are always ways to nurture our children's growing minds.

**B. *Fairfax County: Schools + Community + Mind in the Making = School Success* - Kim Dockery, Chief Academic Officer, Fairfax County Public Schools; Maura Burke, Coordinator of Early Childhood Curriculum, Fairfax County Public Schools; Anne-Mari Twohie & Betsi Closter, Fairfax County Office for Children.**

Fairfax County Public Schools and the County Office of Children have been working as partners for the past three years to bring the research from MITM to wherever preschool age children are. From home day care to Head Start, FCEP and libraries, we are all on the same page about the required Essential Life Skills for school readiness.

**C. *Libraries and Museums as Brain Building Partners* - Andrea Camp, Senior Strategist, Communications Consortium Media Center; Mimi Howard, Policy and Systems Advisor, School Readiness Consulting.**

Across the country, museums and libraries are developing innovative approaches to supporting children's early learning and family engagement and are viewed as trusted places where parents and children learn together. With a special emphasis on the brain development and building executive function skills, this workshop will share specific case studies, tools and strategies to strengthen community connections with museums and libraries.

**D. *Mind in the Making: Professional Development, Family Engagement and Community Building* – Erin Ramsey, Director, Mind in the Making.**

Learn ways to use Mind in the Making to align early childhood systems, build community capacity and engage families in meaningful and reciprocal ways. Free resources and ongoing opportunities will be presented.

**E. *Books Building Partnerships: Engaging Parents and Community Partners through Literacy.* Candace Radoski, Manager National Engagement, First Book.**

First Book is a global nonprofit social enterprise that provides access to free and low cost books to programs serving children in low income communities and partners with thought leaders and educational experts to provide resources that support family and community engagement. Learn how to access First Book's resources for your program.

---

Ready At Five wishes to thank our Symposium Partner



*Division of Early Childhood Development*

and our sponsor



---

**Ready At Five** is committed to elevating school readiness for all Maryland children focusing on the children with the greatest needs. Our goal is to narrow the achievement gap and ensure that all children enter school with the skills and capacities they need to reach their potential.

We serve as a resource to advance high-quality early childhood education providing guidance, research and data-driven solutions for educators, families and communities. We have created innovative research based programs that provide tangible results for young Marylanders. Working at the state, jurisdictional and community levels, our goal is to build a solid foundation for children's success in school and in life.

For more information on Ready At Five, contact:

5520 Research Park Drive, Suite 150

Baltimore, MD 21228

Phone: 410.788.5725

Fax: 410.788.0233

Email: [info@readyatfive.org](mailto:info@readyatfive.org)

[www.readyatfive.org](http://www.readyatfive.org)

"Like" us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/ReadyAtFive](https://www.facebook.com/ReadyAtFive)

Follow us on Twitter [www.twitter.com/readyatfive](https://www.twitter.com/readyatfive)

