



ANNOUNCING THE KIRBY PARENT SPEAKER SERIES

The Kirby Parent Speaker Series is open to our entire community--Kirby and non-Kirby alike--and is intended to bring parents and caring adults together to reinforce an ever-broadening network of support for all children in our communities.

Join us for conversations with recognized experts who will share research and insights about raising healthy children throughout the adolescent years.

These conversations are free and are held in the Kirby School Great Hall. Speakers begin at 7pm and light refreshments will be available starting at 6:30pm.



Drug Awareness and Prevention Expert--October 2nd

Jonathan Scott from Miles to Go Drug Prevention Education has been wowing audiences at Kirby for years. Don't miss this data-driven evening of level headed advice and practical insights into parenting adolescents, who are faced with more substances, in more forms, than ever before. He's a professional speaker who has both recovered from addiction and is also a parent--so offers personal insight as well as a wealth of useful information. He's also the author of a series of books on the subject.



Navigating Middle School--November 15th

Academic and social issues begin much younger for kids these days. The transition from elementary school, with one teacher and long term friends, to seven classes at a new school is a significant step for every adolescent. It's time of transition in parenting as well, which can be a challenge to navigate. Rebecca Leib, PhD, a highly regarded local middle school therapist and Heather Sommerville, owner of the tutoring firm Steps to Success, have insights and constructive tips to help parents understand their experience and what we can do to help and foster confidence and maturity.



Parenting Teens--January 15th

Lucie Hemmen is a parent whisperer, and author of the terrific book, "How to Parent a Teen Girl". Her advice and insights are by no means limited to girls. Lucie is a gifted teen therapist who has an ability to frame the issues and challenges of the teen years in a way that gives both kids and parents a new perspective — one that offers a lot of middle ground. She has practical, specific tools and suggestions to offer which are real-world effective and easy to implement.



Cyber Education--February 13th

Lori Getz is a Los Angeles based instructional technologist who is in high demand as a speaker and advisor. Her approach is level headed and balanced: we need to employ technology for all it can offer and help our kids learn to use it responsibly. There are a lot of things we can do as parents to make the relationship with screens a healthy one.