



Never Enough: When Achievement Culture Becomes Toxic -- And What We Can Do About It

Jennifer Breheny Wallace

Award-winning reporter and author of *Never Enough*.

Denise Dubravec

Winnetka Campus Principal/Assistant Superintendent of New Trier High School D203.

Thursday, September 21, 2023, 7:00 PM

New Trier HS/Northfield, Cornog Auditorium, 7 Happ Rd., Northfield, IL 60093

First 100 households will receive a free copy of *Never Enough*.

Presented by **Family Action Network (FAN)**, in partnership with

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This event is #freeandopentothepublic and will be recorded but not live streamed. Suitable for youth 12+. familyactionnetwork.net

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: JENNIFER BREHENY WALLACE – IN-PERSON

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Thursday, September 21, 2023, 7:00 PM, Never Enough: When Achievement Culture Becomes Toxic—And What We Can Do About It, New Trier High School, Northfield Campus, Cornog Auditorium, 7 Happ Rd., Northfield, IL 60093. Interviewer: Denise Dubravec. NOTE: First 100 households will receive a free copy of *Never Enough*. Books will also be on sale. No registration required.

In the ever more competitive race to secure the best possible future, today’s students face unprecedented pressure to succeed. They jam-pack their schedules with AP classes, fill every waking hour with resume-padding activities, and even sabotage relationships with friends to “get ahead.” Family incomes and schedules are stretched to the breaking point by tutoring fees and athletic schedules. Yet this drive to optimize performance has only resulted in skyrocketing rates of anxiety, depression, and even self-harm in America’s highest achieving schools. Parents, educators, and community leaders are facing the same quandary: how can we teach our kids to strive towards excellence without crushing them?

In *Never Enough: When Achievement Culture Becomes Toxic—And What We Can Do About It*, award-winning reporter **Jennifer Breheny Wallace** investigates the deep roots of toxic achievement culture and finds out what we must do to fight back. Through deep research and interviews with today’s leading child psychologists, Wallace shows what kids need from the adults is not more pressure, but to feel like they *matter*, and have intrinsic self-worth not contingent upon external achievements. Parents and educators who adopt the language and values of mattering help children see themselves as a valuable contributor to a larger community. And in an ironic twist, kids who receive consistent feedback that they matter no matter what are more likely to have the resilience, self-confidence, and psychological security to thrive.

Ms. Wallace began her career in television at *60 Minutes*, where she worked as a journalist for many years. She is a frequent contributor to *The Wall Street Journal* and *The Washington Post*. She will be in conversation with **Denise Dubravec**, the **Winnetka Campus Principal/Assistant Superintendent of New Trier High School, District 203**. Ms. Dubravec is in her twenty-sixth year as a school administrator and has enjoyed a 12-year tenure within the New Trier community.

This event is suitable for youth 12+. It will be recorded but not livestreamed and will be available on FAN’s website and YouTube channel.

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