



DREAM SCHOOL



JEFFREY SELINGO

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING AUTHOR OF
WHO GETS IN AND WHY



Dream School: Finding the College That's Right for You

Jeff Selingo

Award-winning journalist and bestselling author of *Who Gets In and Why*, *There is Life After College*, and *College (Un)Bound*.

Matthew Montgomery, Ph.D.

Superintendent of Lake Forest School Districts 67 and 115 in Illinois.

Monday, November 3, 2025, 7:00 PM

Gorton Center, 400 E. Illinois Rd., Lake Forest, IL 60045

**BONUS BOOK GIVEAWAY of *Dream School* at the event, while supplies last.
Book sale and signing, too.**



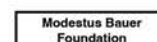
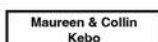
This event is #freeandopentothepublic and will be recorded.
No registration required. Suitable for youth 12+

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: JEFF SELINGO – IN-PERSON

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Monday, November 3, 2025, 7:00 PM CT, Dream School: Finding the College That's Right for You, Gorton Center, 400 E. Illinois Rd., Lake Forest, IL 60045. Jeff Selingo in conversation with Matthew Montgomery, Ph.D. **BONUS BOOK GIVEAWAY of *Dream School* at the event, while supplies last. Book sale and signing, too. No registration required.**

Attending college has long been a rite of passage for millions of teens and a bedrock of the American dream. But that well-worn path has lately taken a wrong turn, denying admission even to super-achievers and putting intolerable stress on family finances. Now, in ***Dream School: Finding the College That's Right for You***, Jeff Selingo (FAN '20, '21, '22, '25) shifts the spotlight from how colleges pick students to how students can better pick colleges.

With test-optional policies and grade inflation leveling the playing field for applicants, getting into prestigious schools has become a kind of lottery. “Plan A” may work out, but increasingly it isn’t—so Selingo urges families to ditch the “Top 25 or bust” mindset and look beyond the usual suspects. Hidden-gem schools with incredible value and rich opportunities are waiting to be discovered.

Backed by unparalleled research—and an eye-opening survey of more than 3,000 parents—*Dream School* reveals what really matters in a college: strong job prospects after graduation, hands-on learning experiences, and a sense of belonging. To help students find their perfect match, Selingo highlights 75 accessible and affordable colleges that will satisfy those priorities.

Organized into three easy-to-digest sections, *Dream School* explains why elite college degrees turn out to matter less than you think, why many parents and students are choosing value over prestige, and how to make sure the degree really pays off.

Selingo is a *New York Times* bestselling author of three books on education and the job market. For more than twenty-five years, his in-depth reporting and storytelling have provided practical insight about the future of higher education and the workforce to university leaders, corporate executives, as well as students and parents.

Selingo will be in conversation with **Matthew Montgomery, Ph.D.**, superintendent of Lake Forest School Districts 67 and 115 in Illinois. A proponent of lifelong learning, Dr. Montgomery is also the Lead Superintendent for Cohort and Partner Connections with the School Superintendents Association (AASA), and co-chairs the AASA STEM Leadership Consortium.

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

Sponsored by **FAN**, in partnership with The Alliance for Early Childhood, The Avery Coonley School, Baker Demonstration School, Beacon Academy, Bennett Day School, Bernard Zell Anshe Emet Day School, British International School of Chicago, Catherine Cook School, Compass Health Center, Countryside Day School, Evanston Scholars, Evanston Township HS D202, Family Service Center, Foundation 65, the Frances Xavier Warde School, Francis W. Parker School, Glencoe D35, Glenview Public Library, Gorton Center, Hyde Park Day School, Illinois Student Assistance Commission, Kenilworth D38, Lake Bluff D65, Lake Forest High School D115, Latin School of Chicago, Leo Catholic High School, Libertyville D70, Lycée Français de Chicago, Magnetar Capital, North Shore Country Day, Northwestern University Office of Neighborhood and Community Relations, Northwestern University School of Education and Social Policy, Pope John XXIII School, Regina Dominican High School, Resurrection College Prep High School, Rogers Park Montessori School, Roycemore School, Santa Clara University School of Law, Science & Arts Academy, The Sonia Shankman Orthogenic School, Stevenson High School D125, Township High School D113, UChicago Network for College Success, Wilmette Public Library, Wolcott College Prep, Woodlands Academy, Youth & Opportunity United.