



NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON GIRLS' EDUCATION

Co-Founded by The Young Women's Leadership Network and
The National Coalition of Girls' Schools

February 10-12, 2012

Public-Private School Partnerships – For Girls

February 11, 2012

NCGS and Wingspan Partnerships have jointly launched an initiative to develop a pilot group of three independent girls' schools and their sister public schools for girls, in Baltimore, Cleveland and Washington DC. This group seeks to develop programs relevant to their unique situations, focus on best partnership practice, and model effective partnership. Building on the national movement of independent schools engaging more actively with their community – particularly for the benefit of underserved students - these schools are enhancing the academic and social experience of private and public school students, while expanding community support.

Wingspan Partnerships will describe the national context for these public-private partnerships. Public and independent school leaders from the partnership schools will present their aims and experiences, discuss the particular relevance of these partnerships for girls and girls' schools, and invite participants in the session to consider their opportunities for similar partnerships.

Moderator: Jacqueline Smethurst

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BIO: Jacqueline Smethurst is Co-Founder of Wingspan Partnerships, a non-profit foundation that narrows the education gap through partnerships between public and private schools. She holds B.A. and M.A. degrees from Oxford; is an Honorary Fellow of her alma mater, St.Hilda's College, Oxford; and has an Ed.D. from the University of Massachusetts. She served ten years as Head of School at Northfield Mount Hermon School, MA. She has guided the founding of five independent schools and a charter school, and consulted widely on planning, curriculum and governance. As Co-Founder of Wingspan she supports and develops innovative and effective models of partnership across the country.

Presenter 1: Holly Fidler

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BIO: Holly Fidler, Director of the North Star Collaborative, is a product of public, private, parochial and independent schools. It is this diversity of experience that informs her work forging public-private partnerships in Greater Cleveland. Holly earned a B.A. from Emory University and a M.Ed. from The Ohio State University. Prior to joining the faculty of Laurel School in 2008, she served as an elementary school teacher in the Cleveland and Columbus public schools.

Presenter 2: Whitney Ransome

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Whitty Ransome served for almost two decades as Co-Executive Director of the National Coalition of Girls' Schools, and was one of the founders of the Coalition in 1991. Ms. Ransome was Director of Admissions and Financial Aid at Dana Hall, MA and Ransom Everglades School, FL. She has also taught at Miami Central High School, Miami Dade Junior College, and Puerto Rico Junior College. She has served as a trustee, marketing consultant, and capital campaign coordinator for a host of schools nationwide. She is on the Board of Visitors of the University of North Carolina Greensboro and the Headmaster's Council of Moorestown Friends School (MFS). Ms. Ransome is a graduate of both institutions and was honored in 2008 as the MFS Alice Paul Stokes Alumna of Merit. Whitty has written extensively on the subject of girls, math, science, technology, and financial literacy; has been quoted extensively in the national media; and has appeared on ABC, CNN, NBC and NPR.

Presenter 3: Kaye Savage

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BIO: Kaye Savage began her career as a certified special education teacher working with low-income students in Prince George's County, Maryland. Kaye worked at the Urban Institute and in the White House on the Historical Black College and Universities (HBCUs) Initiative. Most recently, she served as Program Manager for the District of Columbia Family Education Network, a special parent training initiative of Fight for Children. She has also worked as the National Director for the 21st Century School Fund and as special Project Manager on a staff augmentation contract in the Office of Facilities Management of the District of Columbia Public Schools. Kaye began her college education at Mary Washington College of the University of

Virginia and completed her undergraduate work with high honors at Howard University where she also earned a M.S. in developmental psychology. Kaye was an Intergovernmental Fellow during her tenure at the Department of Housing and Urban Development and earned her MPA from the University of Southern California. Kaye is a Building Excellent Schools Fellow.