



Presented by Family Action Network (FAN), in partnership with Baker Demonstration School, Chiaravalle Montessori School, Erikson Institute, Evanston Township High School D202, Raise Your Hand for Illinois Public Education, and Winnetka D36.

The Test: Why Our Schools Are Obsessed With Standardized Testing, But You Don't Have To Be

ANYA KAMENETZ

NPR's lead digital education reporter
Author, *Generation Debt* and *DIY U*

Tuesday, March 3, 2015, 7:00 PM

Evanston Township High School Auditorium
1600 Dodge Ave., Evanston

Bonus Event for Educators!

The Test: What Do Students Need To Succeed and How Do We Know What Works?

Tuesday, March 3, 2015, 4:00 PM

Baker Demonstration School Auditorium
201 Sheridan Rd., Wilmette

RSVP REQUIRED for 4:00 PM Event:
<http://bit.ly/Kamenetz>

Both programs are free and open to the public.
CPDUs available for educators.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: ANYA KAMENETZ – TWO EVENTS

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Tuesday, March 3, 2015, The Test: Why Our Schools Are Obsessed With Standardized Testing, But You Don't Have To Be, 7:00 PM, Evanston Township High School Auditorium, 1600 Dodge Ave., Evanston, 60201. A dozen years after No Child Left Behind, our schools, districts, and states are being held accountable for weak, limited, and standardized measures of math and reading skills only. Standardized test scores are being used in an unprecedented way to decide the fates of states, districts, students, schools, teachers and principals. Tests and test prep are increasingly coming to define school for millions of students, with the most intense consequences falling on schools that serve the most vulnerable. **Anya Kamenetz** is the lead digital education reporter for **NPR**, and previously covered technology, innovation, sustainability and social entrepreneurship for five years as a staff writer for **Fast Company**. Her latest book, *The Test: Why Our Schools Are Obsessed with Standardized Testing, But You Don't Have To Be* posits a debate is raging over whether students take too many tests, the quality of the tests themselves, and whether the stakes are too high. How do we fix this and build a future of better tests and real accountability? To answer that question, we need to think deeply about what all children really need to be happy and successful.

BONUS EDUCATOR EVENT! Tuesday, March 3, 2015, The Test: What Do Students Need to Succeed and How Do We Know What Works, 4:00 PM, Baker Demonstration School, 201 Sheridan Rd., Wilmette, 60091 (RSVP). Decades of research have revealed that more than half of the qualities that set people up for long-term success have little to do with traditional “book smarts.” The new 21st century skills include the three Cs – creativity, collaboration and communication – and weaving a MESH – Mindsets and Essential Skills and Habits that set people up to grow and learn continuously throughout life. But our schools, districts, and states are still being held accountable for weak, limited, and standardized measures of math and reading skills only. Ms. Kamenetz will describe how these tests incorrectly conceptualize “proficiency” as a fixed quantity in a world where what really matters is your ability to grow and learn. There is a lot of “noise” in the tests, too, as the characteristic they measure most strongly is poverty, not achievement. How do we fix this and build a future of better tests and real accountability? Capacity is limited, **RSVP is REQUIRED** to attend: <http://bit.ly/Kamenetz>

Sponsored by **Family Action Network (FAN)**, in partnership with **Baker Demonstration School, Chiaravalle Montessori School, Erikson Institute, Evanston Township High School D202, Raise Your Hand for Illinois Public Education, and Winnetka D36.** CPDUs available for educators at both events. FAN is grateful for the support of its 2014-15 annual sponsors **Compass Health Center, Evanston Township High School D202, Josselyn Center, Make It Better, New Trier High School D203, Pathways.org, the Martin & Mary L. Boyer Foundation, the Mammel Foundation, and Tina & Byron Trott;** our strategic partners **Evanston/Skokie D65, New Trier Parents' Association, North Shore Community Bank, The Family Institute at Northwestern University, and Youth Organizations Umbrella (Y.O.U.);** and our in-kind sponsors **Acclaim Media, The Book Stall at Chestnut Court, Kirkland & Ellis LLP, and Turing Group.**

