



**SCA HS/MS Joint Parent Council Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday, February 4, 2016, 7:30pm**  
**Manhasset Secondary School Auditorium**

**Welcome**

- **Jeannette Reilly, HS SCA President**  
**Welcome and Introduction of Jessica Lahey, Guest Speaker**
- **Special Presentation** – Jessica Lahey, author of *The New York Times* Bestseller *The Gift of Failure* HOW THE BEST PARENTS LEARN TO LET GO SO THEIR CHILDREN CAN SUCCEED

**Highlights:**

- Book grew out of her experiences as an educator and parent
  - Problem became clear that today's overprotective parenting style has undermined the competence, independence, and academic potential of this generation
  - **Extrinsic motivation** – motivation that comes from the outside (bonuses, grades, praise) and is a 'disaster' for learning; it erodes a person's internal drive and stifles creativity and curiosity; rewards used to motivate are perceived as controlling and are detrimental to long-term motivation and learning
  - **Intrinsic motivation** – motivation that comes from within; one is invested long-term and this fuels curiosity and a love of learning; develops confidence by learning to problem solve on their own; these desirable difficulties are encoded into long-term memory
  - Allow kids to have control and autonomy, even if it means they struggle
  - Establish clear and non-negotiable expectations and let older children figure out the precise manner and strategy to fulfill expectation (i.e. Homework is completed thoroughly and on time)
  - A shift towards a growth mindset vs fixed mindset
  - Learning needs to be meaningful and connect to the outside (needs to be relevant)
- **Q and A followed**

**Next HS/MS Joint Parent Council Meeting, Friday, March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at 10:00am in the Secondary School Auditorium**