

*P*RAISE FOR *BREAKING BOLD*

"This book is your essential road map for building relationships, all in the pursuit of what education is really about—the development of the whole person."

—*Daniel H. Pink, no. 1 New York Times best-selling author of When, Drive, and A Whole New Mind*

"*Breaking Bold* offers a clear path to developing the positive learning relationships that underpin student engagement and academic success. Weston and Molly thoughtfully reignite the passion behind why most educators enter their field—to nurture the spark within each young learner through authentic, personal connections."

—*Dr. Stephanie M. Jones, Gerald S. Lesser Professor in Early Childhood Development; director of the Ecological Approaches to Social Emotional Learning (EASEL) Lab, Harvard Graduate School of Education*

"Weston and Molly's book will have you hooked from the first couple of pages. I laughed out loud several times as I read chapter 1, simultaneously marveling at the connection to them that I was feeling and wondering where they were headed. And of course it all clicked, because ultimately this book is about relationships. This amazing author duo says that they like to 'learn in a way that is meaningful, memorable, joyful, personal . . . and human.' Guess what? They write that way too."

—*Dr. Scott McLeod, associate professor of educational leadership, University of Colorado Denver; founding director, Center for the Advanced Study of Technology Leadership in Education (CASTLE)*

"Through stories, humor, research, experiences, and sheer passion and love for children, Molly and Weston Kieschnick have provided us a masterful work on how we can all break bold to build and sustain relationships with students to improve their educational experiences and outcomes. This book will inform and transform the way that teachers think about, feel, and do their work. *Breaking Bold* is essential reading for any educator who truly cares about the overall health and well-being of our students."

—*Tyrone Howard, professor of education, associate dean for equity & inclusion, UCLA Graduate School of Education & Information Studies; author, Why Race and Culture Matter in Schools*

“Relationships are at the core of who we are and what we do as educators. We want to have great relationships with students, families, colleagues, and the community. Weston and Molly do a fantastic job of defining not only what it means to want to have great relationships but also how you as an educator can create an environment where they are cultivated. The blend of research and pedagogy is uniquely intertwined with the story they weave throughout the pages. It honestly felt as though they were in my living room having a conversation about how we can all get better, while understanding that we can’t do it alone.”

—Joe Sanfelippo, 2019 National Superintendent of the Year; coauthor, *Hacking Leadership*

“Relationships are everything. As educators, we know this intuitively, and the science of learning is increasingly revealing the potency of positive relationships in shaping student success. Now, Weston and Molly’s 12 habits offer us the guidance and structure to approach with purpose and clarity this often abstract concept of learning relationships.”

—Eric Sheninger, partner, *International Center for Leadership in Education*; author, *Digital Leadership: Changing Paradigms for Changing Times, and Uncommon Learning*

“The passion Weston and Molly have for those involved in the field of education is prevalent in everything they touch, including this beautifully written book. By bringing together theory and practice, this unique book showcases 12 habits that will help all educators build strong relationships with the students in their classrooms. Through the life stories shared by the authors, readers will find themselves both laughing and crying while gaining impactful tools and strategies to use immediately.”

—Sherry St. Clair, president, *Reflective Learning LLC*; author, *Coaching Redefined*

“Molly joked that I likely didn’t remember her lessons, but that she hoped that our relationship had some impact on me. Although I might not remember each lesson, I can clearly recall the ways our relationship shaped me and helped me become the person I am today. Molly, in many ways, was everything I wanted to be when I grew up. She was and is hard-working and intelligent, but also she was and is just really cool. She was confident and could command a room, but she was also humble and never hesitated to name and own a mistake. Molly was the ultimate model of who I hoped to be.”

—Lucia Rose; Molly’s former student; first-year law student, *University of San Diego*

“Weston was such an integral part of building me up through high school as my coach and mentor that I would go so far as to say that I would not be the person I am today without him. He was able to use our relationship to instill in me a burning passion for competition, high expectations for myself, and a strong moral compass. There is something special to be said about how a high school teacher and coach can still have such a profound effect on me, even to this day.”

—Joe Roselli, *Weston’s former student; rocket scientist, Lockheed Martin*

“Molly and Weston are the literary duo that I’ve been waiting for. *Breaking Bold* is filled with funny stories and relatable moments that all educators can use in their classrooms, and they just keep it real. From being vulnerable with your students and colleagues to having the belief that ALL students can learn, the habits are laid out so that educators at any level will take what they read and implement something amazing for their students. I’ve read hundreds of education books, and *Breaking Bold* is one that I’ll be gifting to many educators for years—two thumbs up all day long!”

—Adam Welcome, *coauthor and cofounder of Kids Deserve It; international speaker, principal, and NSBA 20 to Watch, Director of Innovation*

“The best educators intuitively and experientially know the critical role that positive relationships play in elevating learning. *Breaking Bold* provides a blueprint for fostering these relationships in concrete and intentional ways. Whether you’re leading a classroom, a school, or a district, Weston and Molly will reenergize your work as an educator.”

—Thomas C. Murray, *director of Innovation, Future Ready Schools; author, Personal & Authentic: Designing Learning Experiences That Impact a Lifetime*

“If you’ve ever listened to the podcast *Teaching Keating*, then you are in for a real treat with Weston and Molly Kieschnick’s latest book, *Breaking Bold*. Weston and Molly masterfully weave their personal experiences and stories in a conversation-like manner to make the reader feel as though they are sitting in their living room discussing the best ways to positively impact student learning. Funny, delightful, and full of thought-provoking anecdotes, *Breaking Bold* will be difficult to put down once you start reading it.”

—Jimmy Casas, *Bammy National Principal of the Year and international speaker; author, Culturize and Live Your Excellence*