

# A Sample Day with Michael Thompson (and other helpful information)

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Schools and other organizations often ask how to use Dr. Thompson's time when he is visiting. Dr. Thompson has over thirty topics on which he has spoken or written, all of which are described on the Workshops page of the website. However, schools have found a small group of topics to be particularly relevant for their teachers, parents and students.

Below are three samples of how schools or conferences have used Dr. Thompson's time during a visit. Please note that Dr. Thompson is willing to make five presentations and/or meetings in a continuous ten-hour day, often addressing all three constituencies in a school. (*He will not work a split day that lasts twelve or fourteen hours. Please do not ask*).

### 1. Sample Pre-K through Grade 12 School Schedule

#### **11:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.**

##### **New Canaan Schools for New Canaan Cares**

Middle School Assembly (Grades 5-6) – **Best Friends/Worst Enemies**

Middle School Assembly (Grades 7-8) – **Best Friends/Worst Enemies**

High School Assembly (Grade 12) – **Pressured Seniors/College**

Administrative/Counseling Support Team (High School) – **Case-based discussions**

Faculty Workshop (K-12, emphasis on K-8) – **Pressured Child**

Evening Presentation – **The Pressured Child** (at Saxe Middle School)

##### **School District of the Chathams**

11:30 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. - 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Student Assembly – **BF/WE**

12:45 p.m. – 1:35 p.m. - Chatham HS Student Assembly for Juniors – **College Crazyiness**

1:45 p.m. – 2:35 p.m. - Chatham HS Student Assembly for 9<sup>th</sup>/10<sup>th</sup> grades – **BF/WE**

3:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. - Reception for Chatham School District Staff

3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. - Chatham School District Teacher Training Session – **It's A Boy!**

7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. - Parenting Session – **The Pressured Child**

### 2. Sample School Schedule: Professional Day

#### **8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.**

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.      **“Best Friends, Worst Enemies: Understanding the Social Lives of Children” or “Raising Cain: The Nature of Boys”**

Break

1:00 - 4:00 p.m.              **“Understanding Families and Working with Difficult Parents”** or other topics.

5:00 - 6:00 p.m.              De-brief with administrators

### 3. International Schools Sample Schedules

#### **Sample 1 – International School of Bangkok**

##### **Day 1 - 8:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.**

8:00-11:00 a.m.	<b>Normal vs. Abnormal Behavior</b> (School-wide Counselor Meeting)
11:15-12:45 p.m.	<b>Understanding School Culture</b> (Leadership Team Lunch)
1:00-2:15 p.m.	<b>Best Friends/Worst Enemies</b> (Parent Book Group)
2:30-4:00 p.m.	<b>Going Beyond Fear in the Parent/Teacher Relationship</b> (open staff presentation)
5:00-6:00 p.m.	Dinner break
6:30-8:00 p.m.	<b>Raising Responsible Children</b> (Parents)

##### **Day 2 - 7:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.**

7:00-8:30 a.m.	<b>The Pressured Child</b> (Parents)
8:45-9:45 a.m.	<b>Going Beyond Fear</b> (PTA-parent version)
10:00-11:50 a.m.	BREAK
11:50-1:00 p.m.	HS Psychology Class
1:30-3:00 p.m.	<b>The Rational and Irrational Expectations of Administrators, Parents and Teachers</b> (all staff presentation)

##### **Day 3 - 7:00 a.m. – noon**

7:00-8:30 a.m.	<b>The Importance of Fathers in Children’s Lives</b> (Father’s only Breakfast)
9:00-12 noon	<b>It’s A Boy!</b> (Community Counselors)

#### **Sample 2 – Western Academy, Beijing**

##### **Day 1 – 7:00 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.**

7:00-8:30 a.m.	Breakfast with Dads
8:30-9:00 a.m.	Book signing with Dads
9:30-11:00 a.m.	Meeting with School Counselors
11:30-1:00 p.m.	<b>College Admissions in Perspective</b> presentation and lunch with Grade 11 & 12 parents and staff
2:00-3:20 p.m.	Psych Class Presentation
5:00-6:30 p.m.	Reception at Director’s Home

##### **Day 2 – 8:45 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.**

8:45-10:00 a.m.	Grade 9 & 10 Students – <b>“Popularity and Social Pressure”</b>
10:45-11:15 a.m.	HS Heads of Department
11:30-1:00 p.m.	Lunch with Moms - <b>“It’s A Boy”</b> presentation & book signing (prior to the PTA meeting)
2:00-3:20 p.m.	<b>“Best Friends/Worst Enemies”</b> for Grade 4-5 Students
5:30-6:00 p.m.	Book Signing for early arrivals
6:00-8:00 p.m.	Distinguished Speaker Series – <b>“The Pressured Child”</b> – Open to other local international schools

##### **Day 3 – 9:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.**

9:00-10:00 a.m.	MS assembly – <b>“Popularity and Social Pressure”</b>
11:30-1:00 p.m.	Lunch with Senior Leadership Team
1:00-2:00 p.m.	Consultation with SELT
3:30-4:30 p.m.	All-Staff Meeting – <b>“How to Deal with Difficult Parents”</b>
4:30-5:30 p.m.	Reception/Book Signing with staff

## **CONFERENCES**

At conferences, Dr. Thompson usually gives a keynote speech of 45 minutes and two additional break-out sessions from 60-90 minutes each. All of the major presentations listed on the Workshop page of the website have been keynote presentations in the past.

## **WORKSHOPS TO ADDRESS SPECIFIC SCHOOL CHALLENGES**

Dr. Thompson is willing to conduct a day-long workshop with discussions devoted to school culture or to address particular challenges that a school may be facing. Schools wishing to have Dr. Thompson make observations or assessments need to discuss those with him directly.

## **TRAVEL DAYS**

Dr. Thompson typically travels on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. During the academic year, he needs to be back in Boston on Thursdays to work at Belmont Hill School where he is the supervising psychologist. Occasionally, Dr. Thompson will schedule Friday presentations at conferences.

## **FEES**

Dr. Thompson charges a flat fee (plus travel expenses) for a full day (10 consecutive hours) of presentations. He has a varying fee structure for independent, public and international schools as well as lower fees for half-day and evening presentations within driving distance of Boston. Please contact his assistant, Elizabeth Diggins, for a specific fee quotation ([digliznow@gmail.com](mailto:digliznow@gmail.com)).

## **AV**

Dr. Thompson often shows video clips with sound; he only rarely uses Power Point. He requests a lavalier or hand-held wireless microphone if the room is large enough to warrant the use of a microphone.

## **BOOKS**

If you are hosting a visit by Dr. Thompson and would like to have a book signing/sale you are welcome to order books through your local bookseller or you may contact Ballantine Books/Random House directly. The Special Sales Department can be reached at 1-800-733-3000. Please tell the Customer Service Representative that you are hosting a visit by Michael Thompson and you will receive a 40% discount on all books ordered. All books not sold at your event can be returned to the publisher. Dr. Thompson *does not bring books with him* to events.