

# KRISTEN C. ECCLESTON, ED. D., NBCT

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linkedin.com/in/kristen-eccleston-the-neurodiverse-teacher-keynote-speaker/

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## RESEARCH INTERESTS

Impact of PTSD on Neuroprocessing, Mental Health Disorders, Adolescent Mental Health Disorders, Mindfulness Education, Vicarious Trauma, Holistic Wellness Initiatives in The Education Setting, Multicultural Affairs, How Sociocultural Factors Impact Neuroprocessing.

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## EDUCATION

■ **Ed. D in Education- Mind, Brain, & Teaching**, May 2021- Johns Hopkins University

**Exceptional Needs Specialist, National Board Certified Teacher**, December 2017

**Certificate in Educational Leadership & Administration**, May 2017- Hood College

**M.S. in Special Education**, May 2009- Johns Hopkins University

■ **B.A. in Communications**, December 2006- Salisbury University

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## HONORS & AWARDS

- 2018 Montgomery County Public Schools Board of Education Award for Distinguished Service to Public Education (Staff)
  - 2018 Congressional Scholarship Recipient
  - 2018 State Delegate Scholarship Recipient
  - 2019 MCCPTA Outstanding Program Recipient (Col. Zadok Magruder High School Enhanced-SESES Program)
  - 2019 MCCPTA Outstanding Special Educator Recipient
  - 2022 Education 2.0- Outstanding Leadership
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## PROFESSIONAL & TEACHING EXPERIENCE

### *Director, Social-Emotional Services | Weinfeld Education Group*

- Education consultant specializing in school mental health and neurodivergent students, including those with PDA, school avoidance, and complex behavior profiles.
- Expert witness in education, special education, and mental health in the education setting.
- Advocate for students and families, attending 504 and IEP meetings and providing expertise in the procedures and processes of those meetings.
- Developed and refined IEPs and BIPs for students with significant social-emotional and behavioral challenges.

### *Adjunct Professor | Towson University*

- Curriculum & Methods of Instruction for Secondary Transition
- Curriculum & Methods of Classroom Management for Students with Disabilities (K-12)
- Using Reading and Writing in The Secondary School
- Teaching Reading in Secondary Content Areas

### *Special & General Educator | Montgomery County Public Schools*

- Department Head- Enhanced-Social Emotional Special Education Services Program
  - Middle School Science Teacher
  - Learning for Functional Independence Teacher (High School)
  - Learning and Academic Disabilities Teacher (High School)
  - Bridge Teacher- Students with Autism and Social-Emotional Disabilities (Middle & High School)
  - ESY Teacher: Bridge and Emotional Disabilities (Elementary & Middle School)
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## **PUBLICATIONS**

### **Media (Podcast)**

Mental Health Magruder E-SESES Program  
The XChange  
The Dominic Mills Podcast  
A Conversation w/ J.T. Berglano  
The Networking Diva Hour  
Dr. D. Podcast  
Central Valley Talk  
Our One in Three Podcast

Power Ace Radio  
Articulation Radio  
Week By Week  
Nurturing Neurodiversity  
King Connections Podcast  
Fully Human Connections  
One World Initiative  
SEL in EDU

### **Articles**

Smith, J.D. (2022, November 21). What is a toy diet? Experts share how it helps children 'develop different skills'. Yahoo Life. <https://www.yahoo.com/lifestyle/what-is-a-toy-diet-skills->

Smith, J.D. (2022, December 4). Most parents worry that their kid will be bullied. But what do you do if your child is the bully? Yahoo Life. <https://www.yahoo.com/lifestyle/what-to-do-if-your-kid-is-a-bully-150058092.html?guccounter=1>

The Editors. (2023, December 2). How to Help Someone With Anxiety (According to 30+ Experts). UpJourney. <https://upjourney.com/how-to-help-someone-with-anxiety>

Today, U. (2024, August 23). Gus Walz broke the internet with his tearful love for his dad. Then the bullying began. USA TODAY. <https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2024/08/22/tim-walt-son-gus-walz-tears-melted-hearts-at-democratic-convention-dnc-critics-called-it-unmanly/74906490007/>

### **Educator Guide**

Eccleston, K.C. (2023). Elle McNicoll: Author study guide [PDF]. Random House Children's Books. [https://images.penguinrandomhouse.com/promo\\_image/9780593649138\\_10319.pdf](https://images.penguinrandomhouse.com/promo_image/9780593649138_10319.pdf)

### **Dissertation**

Strengthening Teacher Knowledge of Mental Health Disorders and Improving Teacher Attitudes Towards Adolescent Mental Health Needs.

### **Peer Reviewed Journals**

Eccleston, Kristen (2022). Adult mental health in education: Examining the needs of today's adult learner. *Adult Literacy Education*, 5(1), 43-48. <http://doi.org/10.35847/KEccleston.5.1.43>

### **White Papers**

Get in Rhithm: Increasing Structured Identification of Student Wellness Needs and Improving Student Availability for Learning Through Social-Emotional Intervention (Rhithm, Inc.)

Get in Rhithm: Providing Evidence-Based Interventions to Empower Student Self-Regulation Skills and Wellness (Rhithm, Inc.)

Harnessing the Potential of AI: Promoting Holistic Student Well-being in Educational Environments (Securly, Inc.)

## **CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

2019. Eccleston, Kristen. "Readiness for High School Panel." 9th Annual Diamonds in The Rough Conference, Rockville, MD.

2022. Eccleston, Kristen. "The Pandemic & School Behavior Challenges: Internal & External Behaviors." Diamonds in The Rough: Virtual Speaker Series, Remote.

2022. Eccleston, Kristen, "The Current State of Student Mental Health." Diamonds in The Rough: Virtual Speaker Series, Remote.

2022. Eccleston, Kristen, et al., "Becoming More Inclusive In Education: Diversity In Unity." Education 2.0 Conference's Winter 2022 Edition, Las Vegas, NV.

2023. Eccleston, Kristen, "Empowering All Learners." TEDx: Grand Canyon University, Arizona.

2024. Eccleston, Kristen, "Unlocking Access: Masterclass on Navigating the ADA Workshop." U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, Remote.

2024. Eccleston, Kristen, et al., "Embracing Neurodiversity for Competitive Advantage." NCPERS: 2024 Chief Officers Summit, Nashville, TN.

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## **VOLUNTEER**

Smithsonian Institution Advisory Committee Member- Zero Barriers Advisory Committee: STEM Education

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## **MEMBERSHIPS / AFFILIATIONS**

Independent Educational Consultants Association- Associate Member

Kappa Delta Pi Honors Society

Lambda Pi Eta Honor Society

Zeta Tau Alpha Alumna