

When Grit Isn't Enough

A High School Principal Examines How Poverty and Inequality Thwart the College-for-All Promise

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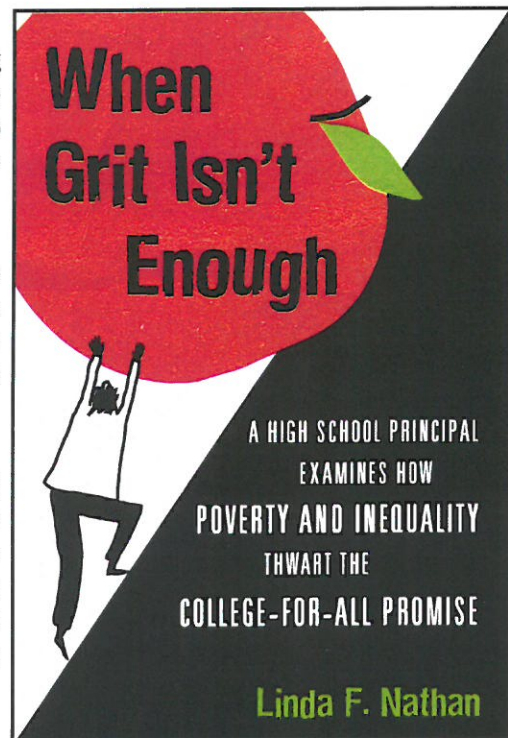
Gutman Conference Center

(Lunch provided)

When Grit Isn't Enough examines major myths informing education and explores how educators can better serve students, increase college retention rates, and develop alternatives to college that don't disadvantage students on the basis of race or income.

In this book, Linda Nathan, founder and co-headmaster of the urban high school, Boston Arts Academy (BAA), reflects on the assumptions she herself has perpetuated about education: that college is for all, that hard work and determination are enough to get you through, that America is a land of equality.

Seeing a rift between these false promises and the lived experiences of her students, she argues that it is time for educators to face these uncomfortable issues head-on and ask the tough questions: How can colleges better acknowledge and address institutional racism and increase retention rates? And for those who sought a career without college, how could high school have paved an alternate path to success?



Linda Nathan is the Executive Director of the Center for Artistry and Scholarship and teaches at the Harvard Graduate School of Education. Dr. Nathan served as founding headmaster of Boston Arts Academy, Boston's only public high school for the visual and performing arts. She is the author of *The Hardest Questions Aren't on the Test*.