



Dr. John Spencer is a former middle school teacher and current college professor who is passionate about seeing kids reach their creative potential. John is on a mission to see teachers unleash the creative potential in all of their students so that kids can be makers, designers, artists, and engineers. He regularly explores research, interviews educators, deconstructs systems, and studies real-world examples of design thinking in action. He shares these insights in books, blog posts, journal articles, free resources, animated videos, and podcasts.

In Spencer's second year of teaching, he used design thinking for our student-centered documentary project. Everything changed. He spent the next decade on a journey to empower my students to become creative thinkers and problem-solvers. This meant mural projects, service-learning projects, designing STEM camps, and creating coding projects. He also helped design his school district's STEM courses and digital journalism course.

Along the way, he helped develop the student-friendly LAUNCH Cycle, a design thinking framework for K-12 students. He is the co-author of the bestselling books *Launch* and *Empower*. In 2013, he spoke at the White House, sharing a vision for how to empower students to be future-ready through creativity and design thinking. John Spencer has led workshops and delivered keynotes around the world.



Judy H. Mullet is a professor emerita of psychology at Eastern Mennonite University and a former school psychologist. She received a BA in Psychology from EMU, an M.Ed. in School Psychology from James Madison University, and a Ph.D. in Special Education from Kent State University. She's taught at EMU for 32 years, first in Teacher Education and then in Psychology, and is a former director of EMU's Honors program and Master of Arts in Education program. As a current EMU adjunct professor, Judy continues to facilitate workshops in universities, schools and churches in relational literacy, peacebuilding and restorative justice in schools, and parenting as peacebuilding. She co-authored with

Lorraine Stutzman-Amstutz *The Little Book of Restorative Discipline for Schools: Teaching Responsibility; Creating Caring Environments*, and authored, most recently, publications in *Children & Schools* and *Adult Learning*. Her works on children's peace literature and inclusive worship have been published by agencies of Mennonite Church USA.



The Walking Roots Band (TWRB) is an acoustic, Americana, folksy, blue-ish-grassy, roots music group based in Harrisonburg, VA. Steeped in Anabaptist hymn-singing traditions, the band's original folk music and reclaimed hymns are supported with lush vocal harmonies. The music speaks of hope, whether through sacred words written hundreds of years ago or in the honest voice of one of the band's songwriters. TWRB doesn't make music full-time, but when they are able to tour, perform, record, or even just get together to practice and arrange new music, they are thankful for the fans, family, and friends who make it all possible.