

# Mary McConnell



Mary McConnell is a former high school teacher and now curriculum consultant to Juan Diego Catholic High School in suburban Salt Lake City, Utah. She graduated from Michigan State University in 1977 and attended Oxford University on a Rhodes Scholarship, earning an M.Phil. in International Relations in 1979. Mrs. McConnell served on Congressman Jack Kemp's staff as chief legislative assistant, and wrote the first enterprise zone legislation. She then served as chief speechwriter to Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger, and as Director of Public Issues for FMC Corporation in Chicago. From 1994 to 2000 she took a "time out" to spend more time with her three children, and became very active in the Salt Lake City Christian homeschooling organization. An unexpected request to teach International Baccalaureate history at her daughter's high school led to a career shift into education. At Juan Diego Mrs. McConnell taught concurrent Enrollment (college credit) Government and Economics, AP U.S. and Comparative Government, AP European History and AP Language and Composition, and coached the debate team. In 2004 she was named the top Diocesan educator for the Salt Lake City diocese. Mary McConnell and her husband Michael relocated to Palo Alto in September 2010, when Judge McConnell resigned from the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals to become Director of the Constitutional Law Center at Stanford University.