

# KEEPING PACE

For the School Districts



Fall 2008

## STUDENT SUCCESS



New Kensington, Pa., resident Jacob (Jake) Vandall is 23 years old, but his memories about Pace School are fresh. Jake was diagnosed with attention deficit disorder and struggled to manage his anger. "My mom knew early on that I was having a difficult time," says Jake. "She and my grandfather wanted to make sure I did well in all areas of my life." They enrolled Jake at Pace from second through ninth grade.

For Jake, the most memorable thing about Pace is the staff. The names roll off his tongue without hesitation. "Sue Hurley never gave up on me. Melissa Fabbro, Jim Acrie and Miss Molinaro saw me through from beginning to end, and Rick Bond was one of the most passionate people I've ever met," recalls Jake.

Jake credits those Pace staff members as the reason he became a peer mentor at Professional Family Services of Western Pennsylvania. "I've been where some of these kids have been; we can relate to each other," says Jake. "I can give them the time and attention they need, and I can make a difference in their lives like the teachers at Pace made in mine."

## Did you Know?

Pace School has announced that it has received Accreditation as a Sanctuary® program, exemplifying organizational leadership in the provision of trauma informed education and treatment to children.

According to the Centers for Disease Control 64% of children experience trauma which shows a "strong and graded" relationship to many serious health problems up to and including early death.

Pace School has been at the forefront of efforts to focus on treating childhood trauma. Pace School is the first organization in the nation to receive this prestigious recognition from the Sanctuary® Institute, a world leader in the field of trauma focused care. The Sanctuary® model of organizational change creates a safe environment where healing can occur.

The Sanctuary® model has been endorsed by the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare as an integral element of its Alternative to Coercive Techniques Restraint Free Initiative.

The Sanctuary® model has been recognized by the National Child Traumatic Stress Network as a supported and acceptable practice in the treatment of childhood trauma and chronic stress.

For more information on Pace School or Sanctuary, please visit Pace School's website at [www.paceschool.org](http://www.paceschool.org) or call 412-244-1900.

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# Pace Panthers



Pace School is proud to have participating in the Western Pennsylvania Intramural Therapeutic League this fall with our flag football team the Pace Panthers!! Boys and Girls grades 7-9 have been playing football against other schools in the area since September

17th. Pace has played against the students at Wesley Highland, Wesley Academy, Bradley Center and Pressley Ridge. In order to play, students have to have no aggression, have all of their work completed and be wearing their uniform. Practice is held daily during reinforcement time. Pace is lucky to have several staff members who have been great role models for our students through coaching and officiating this season. All of the students hard work on and off the field has paid off with a season record of 6-2.

Intramural sports will continue through the winter with basketball and into the spring with soccer. Go Pace Panthers!!!



For more information or to request brochures please contact:

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## Available Space Update

A current list of *open seats* at the following grade levels:

### Emotional Support Classes

K-2nd: 1 seat

3-5<sup>th</sup>: 4 seat

5-8<sup>th</sup>: 6 seats

### Developmental Classes

2-5<sup>th</sup>: 3 seat

3-6<sup>th</sup>: 3 seats

6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>: 1 seat

### Autistic Support Classes

K-2nd: 5 seats

3-6<sup>th</sup> : 4 seats

We are currently considering referrals for the Wait List for the following classrooms:

Autistic Support: 6-8th grade

## Pace Opens Learning Center

Pace School announced the opening of the Pace Learning center for the 2008/09 school year. The program is located at the Middlesex Elementary School Valencia serving children closer to their home school districts. The Pace Learning Center is easily accesible to school districts in Butler, Allegheny, Armstrong and Beaver counties.



The program serves students K-5 in a highly structured and individualized learning environment similar to Pace School in Churchill.