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creating
SANCTUARY[®]
2007 - 2008 ANNUAL REPORT





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Dear Friends,

In May 2008, Pace School became the first organization in the nation to be certified by the Sanctuary® Institute. This honor represents three years of organizational transformation to become a healing environment sensitive to the devastating effects of childhood trauma and chronic stress.

In an age when a child can witness violence just by turning on the TV, it is impossible to ignore that our culture of violence affects every family. Children struggling with mental health issues and/or family turmoil are chronically stressed by these burdens.

At Pace School, the S.E.L.F. compass model guides our efforts to help each student address their personal trauma and stress and thrive academically, socially and psychologically.

Creating Sanctuary® at Pace School means building S.E.L.F. into everything we do to blend progressive academic strategies and therapeutic approaches into a setting where students can thrive.

Karen Lamoureux, M.S. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



safety
emotions
loss
future

CREATING A SAFE PLACE, A SANCTUARY, WHERE HEALING CAN BEGIN

MANAGING THE OVERWHELMING FEELINGS THAT WE ALL EXPERIENCE

RECOGNIZING THAT TO GROW WE HAVE TO LEAVE SOMETHING BEHIND

REGAINING HOPE AND CREATING A LIFE FULL OF POSSIBILITIES.



safety

CREATING A SAFE PLACE, A SANCTUARY,
WHERE HEALING CAN BEGIN



Research shows that as many as 2/3 of all adults have been victims of childhood trauma. Traumatic stress interrupts brain development, disrupts the ability to learn and increases the incidence of serious lifelong health problems, including early death. Children under chronic stress develop unhealthy and risky coping behaviors that can have lifelong consequences.

As sobering as the statistics are, students at Pace School are far more likely to have experienced childhood traumatic stress than the broad population. In fact, 78% of our students have experienced at least 3 serious traumas and 62% have

experienced more than 5.

Creating "Safety" at Pace School means understanding that student behavior, however dangerous, is a response to what has happened to them. When a child does not feel safe, learning is compromised.

Providing a physically and psychologically safe school environment is the first step toward change.

Staff and students at Pace School are using an array of trauma informed techniques including safety plans and red flag meetings to address even the most dangerous behaviors.



MANAGING THE OVERWHELMING
FEELINGS WE ALL EXPERIENCE

emotions



David* came to Pace School with a history of chronic defiance, aggression and property destruction. Many other services and interventions were tried with little success. One day shortly after starting at Pace, David reacted to not earning a cookie by crawling on the floor, scratching both sides of his face and biting himself.

Such an intense emotional reaction to a seemingly minor event was not an isolated incident for David. In the face of such overwhelming emotions, learning to read and write didn't stand a chance.

*NAME HAS BEEN CHANGED

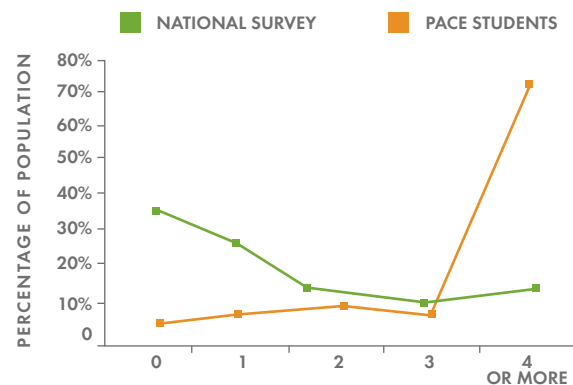
Like many Pace students, David needed help understanding his feelings and learning new techniques to control his emotions and behavior.

David was taught to rate his emotions on an intensity scale to determine an appropriate response to a feeling. By understanding and dealing with his emotions effectively, David has soared from being a near non-reader to an on grade level reader.

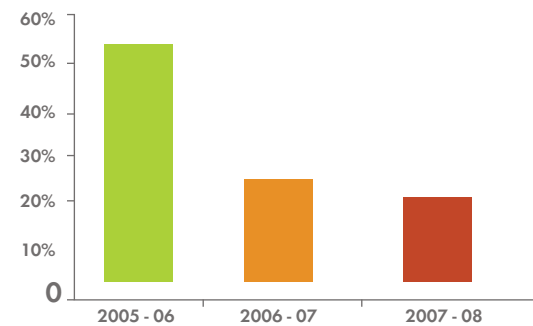
The chart below graphs his grade level reading performance over the years he has attended Pace School.

**IN THE FACE OF SUCH OVERWHELMING EMOTIONS,
LEARNING TO READ AND WRITE DIDN'T STAND A CHANCE.**

PREVALENCE OF ADVERSE CHILDHOOD EXPERIENCES (ACES)

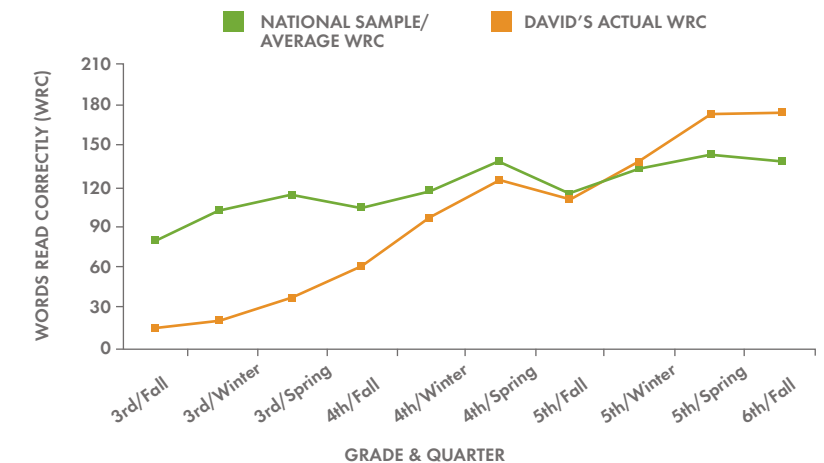


SERIOUS INCIDENTS RESULTING IN THERAPEUTIC RESTRAINT



67% OF THE STUDENTS AT PACE SCHOOL ACHIEVED ACADEMIC GROWTH IN READING FLUENCY AT A RATE EQUAL TO OR ABOVE THEIR NON-DISABLED PEERS.

READING PERFORMANCE



loss

RECOGNIZING THAT TO GROW WE HAVE TO LEAVE SOMETHING BEHIND



REGAINING HOPE AND CREATING A LIFE FULL OF POSSIBILITIES

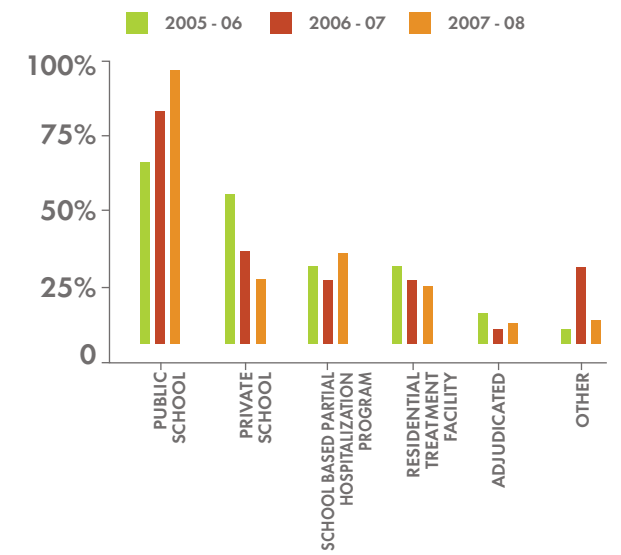
future

Akil Accepting the Strength and Courage Award



PLACEMENTS AFTER PACE SCHOOL

NUMBER OF STUDENTS LEAVING PACE IN 2007-08 = 44



As our students' needs change, Pace School responds with new educational and therapeutic interventions to give them the tools to succeed. As school districts' needs change, we respond with new services and supports that help them meet their mission of educating every child.

In just this way, Pace School was the first in the region to embrace the need for understanding trauma's effects on our children's ability to learn and grow. As our future unfolds, we will continue to improve our ability to address childhood trauma, not just at school but also in the homes and communities of our students.

In 2007-2008, Pace served a record number

of school districts in a growing geographic region. We responded to district needs for ways to serve their most challenged children closer to home. Pace piloted our first in-district classroom in the Woodland Hills High School and provided classroom consultation to an elementary school in Butler.

We responded to the changing needs of students referred to Pace by adding specialized classrooms for students with Autism Spectrum Disorders and Cognitive Delays.

In 2008-2009, Pace will open the Pace Learning Center in Valencia, bringing intensive educational supports closer to students in our Northern Counties.



AS OUR CHILDREN PRESENT US WITH NEW NEEDS, OUR FUTURE WILL BE FILLED WITH INNOVATION AND BEST PRACTICES THAT HELP THEM CREATE A LIFE FULL OF POSSIBILITIES.

For children, the loss of familiarity and routine when transitioning from middle school to high school is typically a welcome change. For children with Autism, coping with the loss of the familiar and routine can be devastating.

Akil was diagnosed with Autism at a young age and enrolled at Pace School as a first grader. During his eight years at Pace, we watched Akil learn that while change is difficult, he had to grieve the loss before he could embrace the new beginning and opportunity to transfer feelings of safety

and comfort to new situations.

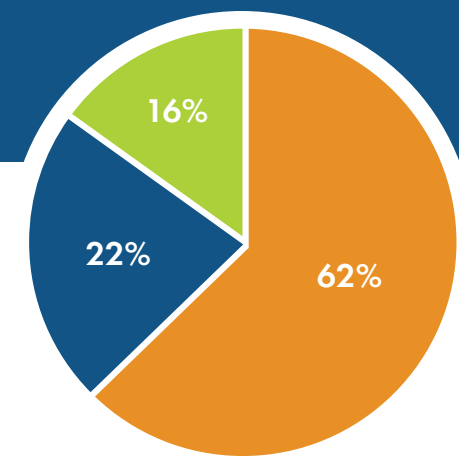
Akil was taught to manage feelings of loss by writing letters and discussing changes with his teachers and administrators. As a seventh grader, Akil wrote of his sadness about transitioning from Pace to High School. Akil asked, "Can I please have two more years here because I'm in love with this school." When the Program Director explained that his leaving was sad for everyone, he stated, "Yes, yes it is. I can only wait for the tears to come."

During 2008 "Moving-On" ceremony, Akil proudly sat with the other students and participated in the celebration. He received the Strength and Courage Award for maintaining a positive attitude while coping with loss and change. In his acceptance speech, Akil thanked his family and the Pace Staff. He expressed his feelings of sadness appropriately, and the tears did come.

"I CAN ONLY WAIT FOR THE TEARS TO COME."

DISTRICTS SERVED

- Armstrong
- Baldwin-Whitehall
- Bethel Park
- Burrell
- Butler Area
- Canon McMillian
- Carylton
- Charleroi-Area
- Chartiers-Houston
- Clairton City
- Deer Lakes
- Duquesne City
- East Allegheny
- Elizabeth Forward
- Fox Chapel
- Franklin Regional
- Gateway
- Greater Latrobe
- Greensburg-Salem
- Hempfield
- Jeannette City
- Kiski Area
- Leechburg
- Ligonier Valley
- McKeesport Area
- Montour
- New Kensington-Arnold
- North Allegheny
- Northgate
- Norwin
- Penn Hills
- Penn Trafford
- Pittsburgh
- Plum
- Propel
- Purchase Line
- Riverview
- Shaler
- South Butler County
- Steel Valley
- Sto-Rox
- Upper St. Clair
- West Mifflin
- Wilkinsburg
- Woodland Hills

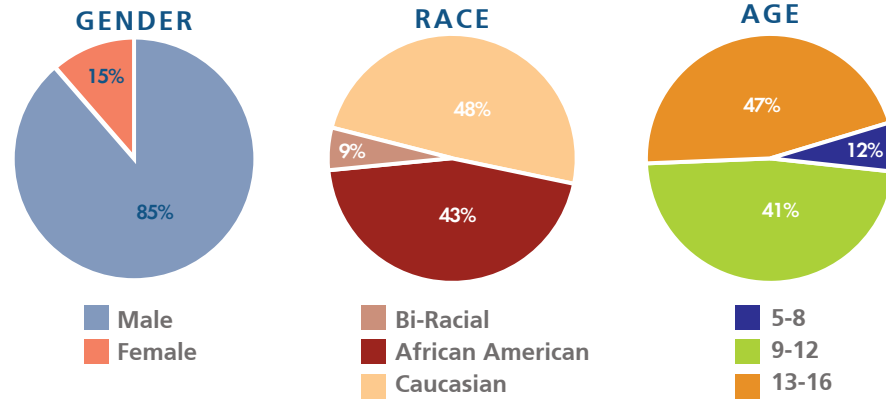


DIVERSITY OF SERVICES

- EMOTIONAL SUPPORT (ES)
- AUTISTIC SUPPORT (AS)
- ES WITH COGNITIVE DELAYS

just the facts

STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS



PACE SCHOOL SERVICES

- Special Education
- Partial Hospitalization Program
- Enhanced Partial Hospitalization Program
- Extended School Year (ESY)
- Visions (In-District Program)

donors

PACE SCHOOL GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGES THE KINDNESS AND GENEROSITY OF OUR VALUED DONORS, IN-KIND CONTRIBUTORS AND VOLUNTEERS WHO SUPPORTED OUR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES DURING THE 2007-2008 FISCAL YEAR.



2007 - 2008

FINANCIAL REPORT | OPERATING FUND

STATEMENT OF REVENUES AND EXPENSES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2008

	FY 2007/08	% of Total	% Inc/(Dec) from prior year
REVENUE & SUPPORT			
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania	\$5,367,888	71%	3%
Other Tuition & Fees	\$1,918,256	25%	10%
Contributions & Grants	\$198,846	3%	-1%
Other Revenues	\$109,295	1%	49%
Total	\$7,594,285	100%	5%
EXPENSES			
Salaries & Wages	\$4,366,537	59%	11%
Fringe Benefits & Payroll Taxes	\$1,568,513	21%	1%
Purchased Services	\$586,232	8%	-21%
Materials & Supplies	\$359,489	5%	13%
Depreciation	\$343,096	5%	5%
Other Expenses	\$192,603	3%	16%
Total	\$7,416,470	100%	6%

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 by Margaret Hotchkiss Hampton
 In Honor of Dr. Marshall L. Levy
 by Lois G. Levy
 In Memory of Helen K. Beverina
 by Andrew J. Costanzo, Jr.
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 In Memory of James R. Stulga
 by Andrew J. Costanzo, Jr.
 In Memory of George Thompson
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 Abruzzi Restaurant
 ANH Photography
 Applebee's
 Athlete's Foot of Shadyside
 Biketek
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 Carnegie Science Center
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 Dick's Sporting Goods
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 Dish Osteria Bar
 Drew's Family Restaurant
 Eat 'N Park
 Family Communications, Inc.
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 Foodland Markets
 Forest Hills Coffee
 Fox's Den Pizza
 Frick Art & Historical Center
 Fuddruckers
 Gateway Clipper Fleet
 Giant Eagle
 Glen Greeneis Stained Glass Studio
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 Heartwood Institute
 Heinz Regional History Center
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 Jack Horner Communications, Inc.
 Jacque Dessange
 Jenny Lee Bakery

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 Leone Animal Supply Centers
 LifeXpo
 Lucky Dog Training Center
 McDonald's Hamburgers
 Medicine Shoppe – Penn Hills
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 Pittsburgh Penguins
 Pittsburgh Pirates
 Pittsburgh Playhouse
 Pittsburgh Public Theatre
 Pittsburgh Steelers
 Pittsburgh Symphony
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 Prantl's Bakery
 Qdoba Mexican Grill
 Raffaele Hair Styling
 Renaissance Pittsburgh Hotel
 Road ID
 Shackelford & Maxwell
 Sheraton Station Square
 Shopper's Choice Market
 Shriner's Circus
 Squirrel Hill Smallman Deli

Southside Works Cinema
 SMG – Mellon Arena
 Smiley's Pet Pad
 SmithKline Beecham
 Consumer Healthcare
 Subway
 Target
 TGI Friday's
 Up-N-Running
 Walker Pet Hotal
 WalMart
 Warhol Museum
 Waterworks Cinema
 Women's Committee of Carnegie Museum
 YMCA of Penn Hills

VOLUNTEERS

Pace is deeply grateful to the individuals and community groups who unselfishly volunteered over 1200 hours of their time to enrich the lives of our kids by assisting with special events, one-on-one student interactions and general program support.

Every effort has been made to accurately reflect gifts and services received by Pace School between 7/1/07 to 6/30/08.

Please allow Pace School the opportunity to address inadvertent omissions or errors by contacting Marilan Caito at 412-244-1900.

2007 - 2008