

# Jessica's Story

**"I** know firsthand how lives are touched and dreams are realized because of Pace School."

As a young child, my parent's were told that I might never speak. As a teen, I was told I'd never graduate. My learning disabilities made me feel like I didn't fit in. I had no real friends and couldn't keep up academically. That is, until my parents found Pace School.

I was scared at first, but I could relate to the other Pace kids. We all struggled with our own problems but we were no longer outsiders. The classes were small and the teachers and counselors always there for you. They helped me develop skills to socialize with other people. They taught me how to focus my attention and knew how to break things down for me so that I could learn.

Thanks to the people and programs at Pace, I not only graduated from Kittanning High

School, I also earned an Associate Degree from Butler County Community College. Today, I am employed full-time as a classroom assistant, volunteer at my church as a youth counselor and am looking into going back to school to become a youth minister.

Why am I sharing my story? Because I am proud of what I have accomplished. I am proof that the right environment can and does change lives. And because other Pace students still need your help to succeed.

Jessica Sigler  
*Former Student*



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