

PTA Parent Coffee Minutes  
February 2, 2015

**Attendees:** Kirk Greubel, Sue Young, Mrs. Loyko  
10 parents

**Katie Wetzel and Debbie Schieman from Partners for Success (AACPs program)** Work with families to support them, children with special needs

Partners for Success (Resource Center at Point Pleasant)- Glen Burnie, MD

[Partnersforsuccess@aacps.org](mailto:Partnersforsuccess@aacps.org)

410-222-3805

- Grant-funded from Maryland Division of Special Education
- Help parents with the IEP process and parents with children with disabilities, special needs, 504s
  - Every school had a 504 coordinator: Sue Young and Mrs. Loyko from CES
- Provide resources, educational programs for parents as well: managing behavioral issues, autism, depression
- Parent lending library: have DVDs, books, etc
- Hold programs for families and children
- Community meetings, programs
- Support, advocacy and resources for families and children
  - Special Education Citizens Advisory Committee for AACPS
- [www.Maryland Learning Links.org](http://www.MarylandLearningLinks.org)- all things dealing with special education in the state of Maryland
  - For parents, professionals, teachers
- Parent Special Education E-handbook available

**Sue Young**

Certified counselor x 20 years, was a teacher as well; also does 'guidance' (her teaching component, teaching skills to students)

Discussing resources available to parents on:

- Mrs. Young visits each grade once monthly to do programs
- Loss, grief (children and adults handle it differently)
  - Following the fire in Annapolis and loss of 6 community members: children in our school knew the children who died in the fire. Families were members at Holy Family Church in Edgewater, MD
  - Often children need to be doing something (drawing, legos, crafts, etc. Some boys generally do better if they are moving around- playing basketball, riding in a car, etc)
    - List of books to help children deal with grief Mrs. Young has available
  - Grief is about transition, loss and change
- Resources for cyberbullying and internet safety: [Take 25.org](http://Take25.org); [Netsmarts.org](http://Netsmarts.org)

- Peace Place project: how to deal with peer to peer conflict
- 'A Bug and a Wish' (K, 1<sup>st</sup>)
  - It bugs me when you... (eg, but in front of me in line)
  - I wish you would... (eg, give me a little more space)
- DeBug (2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>)
- Empowering Upstanders (4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> graders)
- Every classroom has them posted so children can look at them, refer to them; putting them in the hallways as well
- Bullying Pledge hung in 4<sup>th</sup> grade classroom
  - Students have the option to sign that pledging that they won't bully
- Week of Feb 9-13: Kindness week (anti-bullying week)
- Spirit week (eg, 'caps off to kindness,' etc)
- If a student needs to get in touch with Mrs. Young or wants to meet with her: at every water fountain there are self-referral sheet, anonymously
- Add another parent coffee to talk about the differences between teasing and bullying? Mrs. Young is open to this if needed, and interest
  - Bullying, bothering, bossing- what is the difference: could do a parent educational session possibly?