



# Twin Valley School District

4851 N. Twin Valley Road  
Elverson, PA 19520

## MEDIA RELEASE

December 9, 2008

## Contact:

**KellyA. McBride**

Communications Director

610.286.8624

610.286.8608 FAX

[kmcbride@twinval.k12.pa.us](mailto:kmcbride@twinval.k12.pa.us)

## BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS

### *Twin Valley School District Teams with Area Ministerium*

Elverson, PA – Twin Valley School District officials have teamed with ministerial members in the greater Twin Valley area, sharing ideas and concerns concerning ways to help students and families that all serve in common.

At a recent breakfast at the Twin Valley Middle School (TVMS), students, administrators and Pastors met to discuss building relationships with the community. TVMS Principal Dr. Jerry Catagnus provided a brief overview of restorative practices concerning a student's misbehavior where often only the student is involved in the disciplinary process. The restorative practices approach stresses correcting the harm rather than punishing the deed, and advocates including the affected parties in the process. According to Ted Wachtel, the founder and president of the International Institute for Restorative Practices (IIRP) and co-founder of the Community Service Foundation and Buxmont Schools for troubled youth, when adapted to school settings, restorative practices help develop a more positive school culture and significantly reduce behavioral problems.

Mr. Steve Gerhard, assistant superintendent, further recognized the contributions of the attendees and the effort both groups have done together over the past two years as well as the challenge of working together in the future.

Pastoral attendees included David Pershall, Action-Impact, Inc.; Pastor Charles Walker, California Bethany Evangelical Congregational; Pastor Matthew Carter, Community Evangelical Free Church; Pastor Ron Pershall, East Nantmeal Christian Fellowship; Pastor Walter Schuler and Youth Pastor Jeff Schuler, Gateway Missionary Baptist Church; Pastor Lester Groves, Goodwill United Methodist Church; Reverend Larry Frank, Harmony United Methodist Church; Pastor Paul Caughill and Youth Pastor Stephen Jaspers, High Point Baptist Chapel; Reverend William J. Wisneski, Honey Brook Presbyterian Church; Pastor David Groh and Youth Pastors Chris Bucklin and Rick Landean, Living Rock Bible Church; Pastor Bill Wright and Youth Pastor D.J. Grick, Morgantown Community Church; Pastor Eugene Smucker, Rockville Mennonite Church; Father Phil Rodgers, Saint Benedict's Roman Catholic Church; Pastor Keith Yoder, Saint John's Lutheran Church – Gibraltar; Reverend Tom Pumphrey, Saint Mark's Episcopal Church; Reverend Glenn Brown, Saint Paul United Methodist Church; Father Michael J. Fitzpatrick, Saint Peters Parish; Pastor Bill Muller and Youth Pastor Nathan Mellinger, Twin Valley Bible Chapel; Pastor Perry Stewart, Wyebrook Missionary Baptist Church; and Pastor Steve Musselman, Zion Mennonite Church.

###

Twin Valley School District is an equal opportunity public education institution that is committed to excellence in education. In partnership with parents and the community, the District aspires to prepare students for challenges in an ever-changing world.