



**Mary Queen of Peace School**

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Mrs. Joanne LoPresti, Principal

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**To Whom It May Concern:**

On Friday, January 30, 2015, Mary Queen of Peace School was honored to have Mr. David Kohout from Talk is Cheap present to our K-8<sup>th</sup> graders about real life issues and how God put everyone of us on this earth for a purpose. Mr. Kohout addressed our 6-8 graders in his first session. He literally got down to their level, since they had to sit on the gym floor, and spoke to them eye to eye. Many of our students have difficult home lives. They come from broken homes, abuse, and neglect. Some are products of drugs and alcohol. Mr. Kohout shared real life videos as well as his own personal stories of troubled times and how he found God and forgiveness. He stressed time and time again that he was standing in the middle of greatness and that each and everyone of us matters and is special. So many of our middle school students, both boys and girls, came up to me afterwards and shared their own personal stories. It was so obvious how impacted the students were by Mr. Kohout's powerful message.

After the 6-8 grade presentation, Mr. Kohout presented to Kindergarten through 3<sup>rd</sup> grades and after that 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grades. I was amazed at how he was able to keep the same message but make it relevant to the age groups that he was speaking to. Mr. Kohout incorporated humor, real life stories and videos that reached the children's hearts and minds. When he was speaking you could hear a pin drop on the floor because the children and adults were so engaged and hanging onto his every word.

I highly recommend having Mr. Kohout speak to your students. He truly made a difference and reached so many students and adults on a personal level. He was flexible and understanding. Not only did he take time to speak with me before and after each presentation, he reached out to me a few days after for a follow up visit to our school to talk with the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students. It is extremely evident that Mr. Kohout cares so much about our youth and truly wants to make a difference in the lives of our students.

Blessings,

Mrs. Joanne LoPresti  
Principal

*"Empowering our Students"*