

Bullying Prevention Project Hosts their 4th Annual Conference



Dr. Mildred Pearson, our faculty member and president of The Bridging Voices in Our Community Bullying Prevention Project hosted the 4th Annual Bullying Conference this fall. This year's conference theme was "A Time for Prevention and Intervention: Renewing Hope in Education." Rooted in the state of Illinois' Social and Emotional Learning Standards, this conference united living and learning communities in an effort to promote bullying prevention through the sharing of scholarly research, creative resources, and strategies which go beyond simple awareness. Dr. Alan Beane was the keynote speaker. He is recognized nationally and internationally in the area of prevention and has been a speaker on CNN, Oprah Winfrey, Fox News and many more. At the conference, Beane who is now an anti-bullying activist, shared his son's experiences of being bullied. He gave those present at the conference some tips on how to recognize and deal with bullying. A suggestion he gave for victims is to try to diffuse the situation with humor, get away and notify someone of authority. Beane and his wife are authors of several anti-bullying books and give presentations around the country at different schools and conferences. Beane continues to share his son's story with others in order to tell them about the harm that bullying can do to someone. In addition to the keynote speaker, there were also other workshop presentations at the conference including Dr. Pearson's and other faculty and EC/ELE/MLE alumni.