

## SAFE Shares Findings With PTA

SAFE Inc., brought the latest data gathered from the Jan. 2012 Bach Harrison Prevention Needs Assessment Survey administered by the Glen Cove School District to students in grades 6, 8, 10, and 12 to assess the use of alcohol, marijuana, tobacco and other drugs by Glen Cove youth at a recent PTA council meeting on April 16 at Glen Cove High School. Dr. Bernard Gorman, research psychologist, spoke to parents about these findings.

Gorman shared the following:

- Across the board there has been an increase in student's beliefs that alcohol is harmful;
- Alcohol continues to be the substance of choice for Glen Cove's youth as sixth-graders are using alcohol earlier, from age 11 in 2010 to age 10 in 2012.
- This trend continues through the eighth and 10th grade.
- 12th-graders said they began drinking at 14, the same age the onset was reported in the 2010 survey.
- Tobacco use has increased across all grades tested
- Marijuana use is higher than the

national average among Glen Cove 10th-graders.

- For all grades the combined prescription drug use decreased from seven percent in 2010 to three percent in 2012.

The Bach Harrison Prevention Needs Assessment Survey is one avenue SAFE, Inc. utilizes to support the efforts of the PRIDE Project Coalition to eliminate drug and alcohol abuse among Glen Cove youth. Funded by a Drug-Free Communities Support program federal grant, the survey is used to gauge the effectiveness of the Coalition's efforts and to remain cognizant of the areas that need to be addressed. The Drug-Free Communities Support Grant requires that the Prevention Needs Assessment be administered every 2 years; the Glen Cove PRIDE Project Coalition will again partner with the Glen Cove School District in administering the Prevention Needs Assessment in the coming January of year 2014. The Coalition is composed of four Committees, School, Youth, Community and Parent, each with their own respective charge to

address the needs assessment findings at school and in the community.

For further information on SAFE, Inc. or the PRIDE Project Coalition and their initiatives contact Coalition Coordinator Aimee Abraham at (516)

676-2008. SAFE Inc. is a not-for-profit tax-exempt substance abuse education and prevention agency located in Glen Cove. Visit [www.safeglen-cove.org](http://www.safeglen-cove.org) and [www.facebook.com/GlenCovePrideCoalition](http://www.facebook.com/GlenCovePrideCoalition).



**Drug-Free Communities Support Program Evaluator Dr. Bernard Gorman, SAFE Executive Director Dr. Sharon Harris, PTA Council Members Cheryl Hatala, Antoinette Bellomo and Debbie Manzione; and Glen Cove School District Director of Athletics, Physical Education, & Health Denise Kiernan attended the PTA Council Meeting to share important information regarding youth alcohol and drug use in Glen Cove. Photo courtesy of SAFE, Inc.**