



PACT E-News

December 2009 (Volume 1, Number 5)

www.pactvt.com

Questions about PACT? Please e-mail Susie Merrick (merrick@champlain.edu) or Steve Loyer (sloyer@tgvt.net).

"Know that nothing is as big a deal as it seems. When things go crazy, take a step back. Look at the big picture."

-- **Woody Griffin, SBHS Class of 2009,
when asked what advice he would give to
high school students.**

Editor's Note: After graduation, Woody enlisted in the United States Army, and he is currently in basic training in the Infantry in Ft. Benning, Georgia.

Please Join Us

In a continued effort to reach out and connect with our entire South Burlington community, we extend a most sincere invitation to *all* members of South Burlington to join us for

PACT Dessert and Dialogue

at The Pines Senior Living Community

Wednesday, December 16

6:30-7:30 p.m.

7 Aspen Drive
in back of the Hawthorn Suites at 401 Dorset Street
South Burlington

(Park in the back in the "Guest Parking.")

Musicians from F.H. Tuttle Middle School and South Burlington High School will provide entertainment.

Please bring a dessert to share, and take an hour to join us for good food and good dialogue, listening to and learning from the senior citizen members of our community.

We hope to see you there!

PACT Teens Meet with Commissioner of Education Armando Vilaseca

PACT teens **Heather Slattery and Nora Rogers** had a remarkable invitation on Tuesday, November 24, to meet with Vermont Commissioner of Education Armando Vilaseca in Montpelier to talk about PACT.

Heather and Nora discussed with the Commissioner

- the founding of PACT and S.A.D.D.;
- the creation of the PACT logo;
- the importance of student voices;
- the role they feel a group like PACT can play to allow teenagers and children to feel valued by their community.

Heather noted, "The most rewarding thing for me was that the Commissioner took time specifically out of his day to listen to us as students. Instead of attending a stuffy business meeting about our education, we spoke to him directly about our school and community. This showed a lot to me about the type of man Mr. Vilaseca is and how much he genuinely cares about Vermont students."

Also in attendance at the meeting were Charles Johnson, Safe Schools Coordinator, as well as PACT Co-Chairs Susie Merrick and Steve Loyer.