



PACT E-News

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www.pactvt.com

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



PACT Annual Retreat September 10, 2011

We proudly welcome two new PACT Advisory Board Members:

Fathima Sameen (SBHS Class of 2012)

Talia Solomon (SBHS Class of 2014)

Welcome to PACT Community Dinner - September 29, 2011, 5:30-7:00 p.m.

The **theme** for this Community Dinner will be
"Celebrating Teens."

There's much to celebrate about our teens: they are supporting victims of Hurricane Irene in Vermont; they are starting new clubs like the Cricket Club; they are mentoring younger students; they are devoting hours to projects and activities that inspire them; they are making changes in their lives; and much, much more.

We are looking for **20 teen leaders** to host the tables. If you're a teen and interested in helping, please contact PACTeen Advisor Mariah Larkin (mlarkin@sbschools.net or Room 220 at South Burlington High School) or Co-Chair Susie Merrick (merrick@champlain.edu).

At the end of our shared meal, we'll pass around a cordless microphone so that we may share the celebrations of our teens. We hope you are able to join us!

PACT Retreat 2011: Inspiration for Next Steps

On September 10, Thirty PACTeens and adults gathered to plan how to best further the vision of PACT to build and sustain a community of respect, compassion, and equality. PACT is grateful for the support of the South Burlington School District Prevention Funding for this retreat.

Retreat Quotation

"Who are you really? What excites you? What are you afraid of? Where do you want to go with your life? How can we help you get there? The answers to these questions are the youth voice we need in our community. Youth need to find their voice and talk about their fears and also their hopes and dreams, and adults need to really listen." – SBHS Principal Patrick Burke, from his Message of Inspiration.

Retreat Next Step Ideas: A Sampling

- Do more *recruitment* of diverse groups of students and adults in our schools and communities to get people involved.
- Do more extensive work around *advertising* and *promoting* the Community Dinners, especially at SBHS.
- Have *themes* for each Community Dinner.
- Invite *ideas* at the Community Dinners for future PACT events by having paper/pens available.
- *Schedule* regular PACT Board meetings open to the public with a strong youth presence.