



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), or stop by room 220 at SBHS to see Mariah Larkin (mlarkin@sbschools.net).

PACT 2015 Events!

- **January 8, 2015:** Welcome Back PACT Alumni Community Dinner, SBHS, 5:30-7:00 p.m.
- **January 19, 2015:** Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Dinner & Celebration, SBHS, 5:30-7:00 p.m.
- **February 16, 2015:** PACT Dialogue Night at SBHS, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
- **New Location! March 19, 2015:** PACT Community Dinner, F.H. Tuttle Middle School, 5:30-7:00 p.m.
- **Just Added! March 24, 2015:** Neighborhood Learning Conversations Celebration, SBHS, 5:30-7:00 p.m.
- **April 9, 2015:** PACT Community Awards Dinner, 5:30-7:30 p.m.
- **May 13, 2015:** PACT Thank You Community Dinner, SBHS, 5:30-7:00 p.m.

PACT Reflections

"Find your moral compass, and then follow it." ~ Hal Colston, 2015 Vermonter of the Year

The words above Hal Colston offered to our PACT Retreat in 2010 as the Keynote Speaker left a deep impression on all of us and inspired us to look for that moral compass for PACT: how might we truly honor the mission first envisioned in 2008? Patrick Burke, 2011 Keynote Retreat Speaker, helped answer that question when he shared this invitation: "Youth need to find their voice and talk about their fears and also their hopes and dreams, and adults need to really listen." And 2012 Keynote Retreat Speaker Sally Borden gave us the gentle reminder to listen "in particular to the voices that are quieter, the ones that are hidden, the ones that are drowned out, that we don't hear if we're not paying attention."

As we begin 2015 and celebrate the 7th birthday of PACT, we have a renewed awareness that the growth and sustainability of our efforts happen only because of *a lot of help from our friends*, to liberally quote John Lennon and Paul McCartney.

We have work to do to ensure that all voices are indeed heard. The work is uplifting, meaningful, and always fun. We hope you will continue to join us.



Best turnout ever for PACT Dessert & Dialogue at Allenwood, 12-4-14, with special guests the UVM Top Cats!



PACT is grateful to be included in the 2014-2015 Neighborhood Learning Conversations led by Rowland Fellow John Painter looking at the four-year advisory system at South Burlington High School. To take part, please contact Mr. Painter at jpainter@sbschools.net.