

PIP Award Thank you - Chamber, Volunteers and Partners

On January 28, I received the Middlesex West Chamber of Commerce www.mwccoc.com Volunteer Service Award for my 10 years of service with Acton-Boxborough Parent Involvement Project (PIP) www.actonpip.org. AB PIP evolved from a MA Dept of Education and National Science Foundation elementary seed grant (1 of 80+ PIPs statewide) for take home math and science kits in 2000 to a K-12 Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) education coalition offering ongoing community math and science enrichment programs, resources and volunteer service opportunities. It takes a village to raise a volunteer organization, so in addition to my sincere thanks to the Chamber, I want to thank PIP's many collaborators, volunteers, and partners.

This PIP Service Award is an opportunity to recognize and thank the Acton-Boxborough Schools including AB School curriculum and program support from Deborah Bookis, Eileen Sullivan and Kay Steeves. Thank you to PIP Co-chair John Petersen, Webmaster Janice Ward for creating an interactive PIP website (www.actonpip.org), PIP Steering Committee and lead volunteers including Secretary Mary Ann Smith, PIP Treasurer Rheta Roeber, Sue Krikorian for Summerskills, Steven Feinstein, Bernie Kosicki and Donna McGavick for Star Parties, Gary Kappel, David McCormick and Shelley Sherman for Discover STEM, Denise LeBlanc and The Discovery Museums for PIP programs, Sunanda Sahay and Lorrie Jacobsohn for AB Robotics, Kate Crosby for green eco education, Mary Michelman, Acton Environmentalist for Water Wise Placemats and Joanne Mills for Family Math Game Night . Special thanks to ALL of the PIP parent volunteers and AB student volunteers especially those who have taken a leadership role to make PIP STEM community math and science events possible over the years.

Thank you to PIP community and business partners including the Town of Acton, The Discovery Museums, Acton and Boxborough Libraries, Green Acton, the Middlesex West Chamber School Business Partnership, Amateur Telescope Makers of Boston (ATMOB) and CAFY. Roche Bros of Acton and Manager Kevin Fry deserve VIP volunteer recognition for Market Math, along with Mike Hills, GM of Acton Toyota of Littleton for ongoing sponsorship of PIP STEM events and AB teen driver training sessions. We appreciate the ongoing business support and sponsorship from CISCO, Enterprise Bank, Facilitations, Haartz, IBM, Solidworks, Raytheon, Village Art Workshop in West Acton, Savoury Lane, Sweet Bites, Worker's Credit and all of our partners (complete list at www.actonpip.org/partners.htm).

Looking ahead, my hope is that AB PIP continues to lead the way with fresh ideas and new STEM enrichment programs and opportunities to engage a new generation of students, families and community-minded volunteers, businesses and organizations.

Karen Herther
Co-Chair AB PIP
www.actonpip.org

978-263-6742
10 Macleod Lane
Acton, MA 01720