

Massasoit Community College Former Vice-President/CFO Betty Ann Learned honored with Leading by Example Award in a Ceremony at the State House

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Brockton, MA - On Thursday, October 25th, Massasoit Community College's former Vice President of Administration/CFO Betty Ann Learned was honored with the *Leading by Example Award* in a ceremony held at the State House for her leadership in guiding Massasoit's energy efficiency and clean energy efforts. Under Massachusetts Governor Deval Patrick's *Leading by Example* program, the Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs *Leading by Example Awards* honor state agencies, public higher education institutions, municipalities, and individuals that demonstrate outstanding clean energy and environmental leadership.

Ms. Learned has been a creative and proactive leader in campus sustainability, and there is a sizeable list of the many initiatives accomplished on the Massasoit campuses under her direction. "By harnessing the collective efforts, expertise, and passion of individuals from all sectors of the college, Betty Ann was able to lead to a comprehensive approach to sustainability that has gone far beyond Massasoit's reductions in energy consumption and has achieved significant results both in the classroom and throughout the campuses. She has changed the culture here with regard to sustainability for the positive and has left us with a lasting impact," said Dr. Charles Wall, President of Massasoit Community College.

Massasoit worked with the Division of Capital Asset Management (DCAM) to embark on a comprehensive energy and water conservation project, which has now entered its third and final phase. When the project is complete next year, it will result in a projected savings of \$12 million over 20 years with a 40% reduction in annual energy use. Working with DCAM, DOER, and the Massachusetts Development Finance Agency, Ms. Learned helped Massasoit participate in PV East, a multi-campus solar photovoltaic project financed through Clean Energy Renewable Energy Bonds and federal stimulus funding. Massasoit's 370kW array, the largest project in PV East, placed rooftop solar photovoltaic panels on five buildings on the college's Brockton campus. The installation generates 453,000 kWh annually and produces annual savings of \$55,000 for the college. Additional revenue comes from Solar Renewable Energy Credits, which in the most recent fiscal quarter totaled more than \$14,000. Ms. Learned made sure that the photovoltaic project included monitors in each of the buildings to raise awareness of the project and enable students, faculty, and staff to view the electricity output in real time.



(L - R) **Holly States**, Associate Dean of Grants & Sustainability at Massasoit Community College; **John Caffelle**, Staff Assistant, Massasoit Community College; **Richard Sullivan**, Secretary of the Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs; **Betty Ann Learned**, former Massasoit Vice President of Administration / CFO; and **Eric Friedman**, Director of the Leading by Example Program, Department of Energy Resources

One of the most visible demonstrations of Massasoit's commitment to sustainability and Ms. Learned's leadership is sustainable landscaping. The college has installed eight native gardens on its two main campuses as well as a 35,000 square foot wildflower meadow, a rain garden to reduce storm water runoff, a perennial edible garden, a culinary arts-sponsored herb garden, and two no-mow areas. Strategically placed signs call attention to the gardens. These projects have engaged Issues in Environmental Science students in planning and implementation and have been used as a teaching and learning tool in other classes. As a result of these landscaping efforts, Massasoit's Brockton campus has received designation as a Certified Wildlife Habitat from the

National Wildlife Federation.

"Betty Ann Learned's leadership and accomplishments in helping Massasoit Community College achieve substantial reductions in energy use, costs, and environmental impacts and to educate students, faculty, and staff about the importance of sustainable practices have left an indelible imprint on the institution and the college community. Massasoit's commitment to sustainability continues; the college has identified sustainability as one of the six major goals of its strategic plan and has dedicated resources to support the goal. Ms. Learned's leadership and example have served to change the culture of the institution, and her legacy will endure," said Holly States, Associate Dean for Grants & Sustainability.