



Shari S. Cohen AWC Detroit Literacy Heroine



*Shari Cohen with Mayonna Brown
at Pasteur Elementary School.*

Shari S. Cohen, a Bloomfield Township resident, is a communication consultant and Association for Women in Communication (AWC) Detroit Chapter member and past officer.

She joined the Detroit Public Schools Volunteer Reading Corps to help students improve their reading skills when the program was started by the Detroit Free Press and Detroit school system in 2009.

A graduate of Detroit Public Schools, she was impelled to serve at Pasteur Elementary, the closest still-operating school to where she grew up. During the school year, she volunteers once a week, typically working with the same two students individually on reading and writing skills.

She also has attended workshops about teaching reading and meets regularly with other volunteers to share experience and advice.

“Reading opens doors to the world and without good reading skills, children will falter in school and life. As a devoted reader and writer, I feel a special impetus to help others learn to enjoy reading books. I have made a strong connection with several children and often feel that I benefit more from the program than they do.”



The **Detroit Public Schools Volunteer Reading Corps** calls for the Metro Detroit community to join in the fight to ensure our children have every opportunity to be successful. By coming together to devote time tutoring in the classroom, citizens can help the children of the Detroit Public Schools improve performance levels.