

## **From the Desk of the School Board President**

The Board of Education is beginning the process of preparing the budget for the 2009-2010 school year. Working closely with administration and staff, we are looking to design a budget that will provide our students with the education they deserve and allow Shelter Island's taxpayers to know that their hard earned tax dollars are being properly spent.

We will be holding five budget work sessions between now and March 9th. At each session, we will work on a specific aspect of the budget. The full schedule is below and will be posted on the school's website.

During our work sessions, we will hear presentations from administrators and staff concerning their fiscal needs and recommendations. We will talk about priorities for students and taxpayers, and seek to find a proper course of action during these difficult financial times. We will also be looking for community input. You, the parents, alumni and taxpayers of this district deserve the opportunity to put your thoughts and expertise into this process.

Thus, allow me, on behalf of my colleagues on the Board of Education, to invite you to share in the process we are undertaking at the school. Please join us for one, some, or all of our budget workshops. Your voice and your views are imperative as we on the board seek to present a budget that embodies an excellent education within a structure of sound fiscal practices and prudent use of taxpayer dollars.

### **All meetings will be held a 7:00pm in the Home & Careers Room**

#### **Meeting #1 – 2/5/09**

**Salaries, Employee Benefits, Transportation, Debt Service, Inter-fund Transfers**

#### **Meeting #2 – 2/12/09**

**Board of Education, Central Administration, Business Administration, Auditing, Treasurer, Legal, Operations of Plant, Maintenance, of Plant, Central Printing, Central Data Processing, Special Items**

#### **Meeting #3 – 2/25/09**

**Programs for Handicapped Children, Occupational Education 10-12, Instructional Media, Pupil Services, Health Services, Psychological Services, BOCES**

#### **Meeting #4 – 3/3/09**

**Instruction Administration and Improvement, Teaching, Equipment, Contractual, Materials & Supplies, Charter School, Textbook, Special Schools, Pupil Personnel Services**

#### **Meeting #5 – 3/9/09**

**Computer-Assisted Instruction, Co-Curricular Services, Interscholastic, Special Schools**