



LETTER to the BOARD

July 16, 2004

"You can't win any game unless you are ready to win."

-- Connie Mack

Greetings from Wayne Central School District. This will be a short newsletter since we just met last night

Board Newsletter:

1. **TIES Program:** We had a request for an update on our TIES program. I have put that on the August Board agenda. Mrs. Woodard will give a presentation.
2. **Ginna:** We have been contacted by the Constellation team that is negotiating the assessment of Ginna. They have a proposal they would like to share with us. We have suggested a meeting on July 23 at 10:00 A.M. We will see if the date works for everyone and if it does we will see what the proposal encompasses.
3. **Budget:** It was obvious to me last night that there were still some confused looks about the budget and taxes. I have attempted to reexplain the assessment issue below and have enclosed a memo from Greg on the effect of the on going Ginna issue.
 - a. **Goal:** Our goal is to maintain the \$20.97 tax rate we told the tax payers in May. This is a .32 per 1,000 increase.
 - b. **Equalization rate:** The large increase in the assessment to Ginna from 150 million to 378 million has caused our equalization rate to change from 100% to 118%. This could cause some large fluctuations in the tax bills between towns. There is a provision in the law for situations just as this when you have one large piece of property that can negatively affect everyone else. At the August meeting we will be asking the Board to pass a resolution which allows Ginna to be considered separately. This will bring the equalization rate back to its traditional 100%.
 - c. **Effect of the uncertainty of Ginna's assessment:** See Greg's letter.

If you have any questions about these issues please do not hesitate to contact Greg or I. It can be very confusing as it involves so many interrelated parts of the budget.