

## Superintendent's Column

Thanks to the efforts of the SCA Community Education Committee, over the past three weeks I have had the good fortune to lead six well-attended small group "Listening Tour" meetings. The format of the meetings encourages a very interactive experience with the emphasis on having members of the community share their perspectives on our schools in a highly respectful and informative manner.

These meetings come at a time when an incredible amount is taking place in public education in New York State including the implementation of the common core learning standards, new common core state assessments, and a new teacher evaluation system. These initiatives must be implemented at the same time school resources are limited by "the two percent" tax levy cap. The responsiveness of the community members who have attended the six meetings has proven to be very encouraging to me as our school community navigates through these very challenging times.

The meetings also come at a time when students in the Manhasset Public Schools continue to be recognized for their overall high academic achievement attained during the 2012-2013 school year as discussed at the October 24<sup>th</sup> board meeting. Please visit our website <http://www.manhasset.k12.ny.us/files/filesystem/10-24-13%20assessment%20results%20presentation.pdf> for comprehensive information regarding 2013 assessment results).

Our students' academic performance continues to place the Manhasset Schools as one of the most prominent school districts in New York State as well as in the country.

I encourage each of you to attend an upcoming "Listening Tour". They will be held on November 6 at 7:30 p.m., November 13 at 10 a.m., and November 20 at 7:30 p.m. Please contact Mimi Donohue at [donohuemimi@aol.com](mailto:donohuemimi@aol.com) if you wish to attend. Our collective goal is to continue to inform the community about what we do, and to develop support that will allow our schools the opportunity to continue to provide one of the highest quality academic programs offered in the nation. I look forward to seeing you at an upcoming meeting.