It is the right thing to do!

On Monday, February 9th, a group of concerned business owners, citizens, BOE members, superintendents and union leaders met at Newark High School to discuss the county sales tax issue. The issue being the possibility that the county will take back the 1% of the county sales taxes collected that they have traditionally shared with Wayne County Schools. Our superintendent, Michael Havens, led the group.

The goal of the meeting was to encourage the supervisors of our county to continue supporting education within the county by maintaining the 1% portion of the sales tax contribution that has existed since 1976. Each school superintendent shared the exact amount of money his or her school would lose and the percentage of the budget this would represent if this sales tax revenue went away. At Wayne Central School District, we could lose $835,000, which represents 4% of the budget.

As a result of this meeting, the school superintendents group has initiated and is organizing a coalition of support called the Wayne County Education Association. This group will be instrumental in working with the county supervisors and arranging the necessary connections to hopefully establish a referendum to the November election. The rational for the referendum is to ask for the advice of the voters whether to continue the current sharing of county sales taxes collected with the local schools, or put the 1% back to the county supervisor’s budgets. At this time the supervisors present at the meeting spoke against having such a referendum.

This is where your help comes in. There are two things you can do.

1. **Call your local town supervisor if you live in Wayne County**. If you do not live in Wayne County, call Joe Molino (524-5171- Ontario supervisor) or Frank Guelli (524-5671-Walworth supervisor) and encourage them to support the creation of an advisory referendum in the fall election. Let the voters decide the fate of their taxes. Our desire is to settle this yearly battle over funds.

2. **Join the coalition** or encourage others to join. The Wayne County Education Association is made up of concerned residents, parents, educators, business people, . . . and possibly you! If you are interested, just let Michael Haven know.

It is the right thing to do!

Together we are stronger.

Pat

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Check out the Wayne Teacher Resource Center’s new website! When you log onto the WCSD website the hot button is on the left in the blue navigation directory or you can click on the words Teacher Resource Center. Web addresses are: http://10.19.4.5/WTRC (form inside the district) or http://wayne.k12.ny.us/WTRC (from outside the district).

**Upcoming classes and featured guests:**

Starting in February - Go Digital with Barb Heald!

Offered beginning in March - Using Video Clips with Barb Heald and two sections of The Reluctant Learner (Memory and Attention) with Michele Scheik!

In April – Guests Dr. Jim Black from Nazareth and Mary Beth Hewitt from BOCES Choices will be here for us!
3rd Thursday— 10 minute
Meeting February 26th.

Topic:
In-service Credit— Find out how to get more money! Learn how to apply for and claim your in-service credit.

Issues currently being explored:
* Possibility of a grievance.
* Technology chairperson status.
* New teacher orientation— future structure of.
* In-service credits and pay for counselors.

Issues acted upon/discussed:
* Teacher certification regarding gifted and talented new certification area.
* New teachers induction and changes in tenure area.
* Health insurance premium deductions clarified.

Rule of thumb #13:
Friday the 13th’s in February are always a good luck day—it means the winter break is here!

WTA Elections are just around the corner! All officer positions are open—elections to be held in April. Bldg. Reps.—elections in May. Ask not what your Union can do for you but what you can do for your union!

GOOD STUFF!!!!!!

What’s in your Contract?
Q: What companies can I choose from to open up my 403 contributory account?

A. Per Article V, entitled Fringe Benefits, from the WTA / WCSD Teachers’ Contract, page 14, “The Board of education agrees to purchase annuities for employees in accordance with the provisions of Section 403(b) of the Internal Revenue Code. . . The district will only be required to deal with a maximum of 12 different annuity companies. . .”

The list of twelve companies along with their local contact agents are as follows:

1. **Aetna Life & Annuity Co.**
   Local Agent: Robert Rosenberg
   1100 University Ave., Rochester, NY 14607

2. **L & M Financial Planning Corp.**
   Local Agent: Amy Lipsitz
   Boulevard Mall, 768-A Alberta Dr. Amherst, NY 14226-1175
   1-800-326-8410

3. **Companion Life Ins. Co.**
   Local Agent: Emerick Yusko
   Wally, Hacket Div.
   1000 Pittsford-Victor Rd. Pittsford, NY 14534

4. **Putnam**
   Local Agent: Jeff Vogt

5. **Legend Group** (NEA endorsed Value Builder’s Program)
   Local Agent: Dan Dovan & Mike Kramer
   Saginaw Plaza, 1425 Henrietta Rd.
   Rochester, NY 14623
   1-800-316-3873
   (585) 272-8470

6. **Traveler’s Ins. Co.** (Copeland)
   Local Agent: Joseph Berger
   3255 Brighton-Henrietta TL Rd.
   Rochester, NY 14623
   (585) 475-1310

7. **Union Central Life Ins. Co.**
   Local Agent: John Howe
   47 W. Church St.
   Fairport, NY 14450
   (585) 223-4545

8. **The Vanguard Group**
   Contact person: Kurt Nesheim Valley Forge, PA 19496-9911
   1-800-662-2001

9. **Variable Annuity Life Ins. Co.**
   P.O. Box 7780-1115
   Philadelphia, PA 19182-1115

10. **Fidelity Investments**
    PO Box 31401
    Salt Lake City, UT 84131-9221
    1-800-343-0860

11. **IDS Life Ins. Co.**
    Local Agent: Rick Lang
    6229 Ontario Center Rd.
    Ontario, Center, NY 14520
    (315) 524-5221

12. **Crossbridge Financial Group, LLC**
    Commonwealth Financial Network
    Local Agent: Tim Weller
    6206 Slocum Rd.
    Ontario, NY 14519
    (315) 524-8000

Legend Group Representative returns!
Mike Kramer of the Legend Group will be back again toward the end of this month and into March. Did you have one of their colossal cookies last time? YUM! But really, they will continue to be available to answer your questions and provide financial investing information. Their schedule for this month is as follows:

FE—February 24th (Tuesday)
MS—February 25th (Wednesday)
OE—February 26th (Thursday)
HS—March 2nd (Tuesday)
OP—March 3rd (Wednesday)

GOOD STUFF!!!!!