

*August 2008*

*Collaboratively Speaking*

*Happy New Year!!!!*

As we wind down these last few glorious days of August and head into the Labor day weekend, I know that each of you have readied your programs and services for the outset of another school year. In Pre K –12 education our calendar and biorhythms are marked by the school year. The New Year is celebrated not on January 1 but sometime during the week prior to or just after the Labor Day weekend. New staff is oriented, veteran staff welcomed as the excitement of greeting our students reaches a fever pitch. I remember that day with great fondness as well as both a teacher and administrator. The excitement is palpable and the flow of adrenalin sometimes makes sleep difficult. I am confident that you have made every precaution and implemented every safeguard and plan. Yet, despite all of your efforts, it is difficult to relax until the buses arrive, the students enroll, and the staff begins the long, complex and challenging process of enabling our youngsters to gain the confidence, skills and understanding they need to be successful students. For some students this is a difficult and arduous journey and your commitment to their achievement is remarkable. Through your leadership, they are provided a wide range of programs and as a result of which their confidence as learners is nurtured. I am pleased and proud to be your colleague. May you have another wonderful year with your staff and students!!

*Coming Attractions*

*The Dilemmas of Leadership*

I am finalizing an agreement to engage Dr. Rob Evans to conduct a workshop on the dilemmas of leadership for us and other collaborative senior staff. Rob is a psychologist, gifted presenter and author and I know that you will enjoy this opportunity. As soon as the date is finalized formal announcement and registration information will be disseminated.

*Executive Assistant*

I am pleased to announce that Caroline Sabin will be joining me as part- time Executive Assistant beginning the week of September 8. Caroline is a Harvard University graduate, former teacher and community organizer. I have worked with Caroline in the past and have great respect for her skills and knowledge.