

November 23, 2009

- **ELI WHITNEY RENOVATION** – The grass roots movement to restore Eli Whitney to the bonded money list began in earnest on the evening of Wednesday, November 18th with an informational session that drew over 70 students, parents, teachers, and alumni.
 - News articles regarding Eli Whitney have appeared in the New Haven Register on November 15th and November 19th.
 - On Wednesday, Nov 18th, SVFT Leadership plans to attend the question/answer meeting being held at Whitney. The Interim Superintendent Pat Ciccone has also been invited to attend.
 - Leadership has sent a letter to Governor M. Jodi Rell to express our displeasure and ask for answers – appropriate Senators and Representatives were also be copied.
- **SUPPLIES** – At every available venue, SVFT Leadership continue to raise the concern of how difficult our teachers' jobs have become from the lack of funds, materials and supplies. The Interim Superintendent has assured us that principals have been given a small amount of supply money to distribute.
- **SENIORITY LIST** – A draft copy of the seniority list was e-mailed to the home and school e-mail addresses of each building representative. A final copy will be available on SVFT website prior to January 1st. Every member is encouraged to review and notify the SVFT office with errors, omissions or changes that need to be made to the list.
- **SCHOOL VISITS** – We continue with school visits. In November we visited Ellis, Vinal, Kaynor, and Windham. The remaining 8 schools will be visited in December. As a visit to your school approaches, a letter will be sent to the Principal and the Union Representatives in your building. Please see your rep regarding any issues or concerns prior to our visit.
- **HEALTH & SAFETY VISIT** – On November 15th the Health and Safety Committee visited Norwich THS. As a new building there were very minimal concerns found. The committee has plans to visit Ellis THS on Monday, December 14th.
- **COMMISSIONER VISIT** – November 30th at Central Office. The Leadership plans to meet with Commissioner Mark McQuillan and Interim Superintendent, Pat Ciccone to discuss school budgets, supplies, Eli Whitney, and determine his vision of our system in these tough economic times.
- **WRIGHT TECH RENOVATIONS** – President Rick Tanasi met with representatives from the architectural firm contracted for the renovation of JM Wright. The group reviewed the preliminary drawings and several ambitious cost saving ideas were presented. The intent is to share the findings with the Interim Superintendent and the Ad-hoc committee.