

**From the Mayor's Desk...January 18, 2013**

### **Request for a Second Fire Company**

In July of last year, Nikolai Kabelev, an Irvington resident and former member of the Village's Fire Company, asked me and the Board of Trustees to consider his request to establish a second local fire company. He stated that his rationale for the proposal included the need for greater transparency in the existing Company's operations, increased investment in firefighting equipment and training, and improved inclusiveness in member recruiting. The Irvington Fire Company disagreed with Mr. Kabelev's rationale and contended that a second company would be divisive and detrimental to the work of the existing organization.

The Board and I thoroughly examined information relevant to Mr. Kabelev's request, including presentations that he and the Village's Fire Chiefs made at public Trustee meetings. The main criterion we used in evaluating the positions of the two parties was whether a second company would serve to improve the Village's current firefighting capabilities. After much discussion and deliberation, our unanimous conclusion is that there would be no such benefit.

Nevertheless, we sincerely appreciate the open, honest and constructive dialogue that Mr. Kabelev's proposal generated. And we certainly look forward to continuing to work with the members of the Irvington Fire Company in support of their essential service to our community.

### **High School Principal Search - Public Forums to Develop the I.H.S. Leadership Profile**

I'm happy to pass along the following message from Irvington Schools Superintendent Dr. Kristopher Harrison:

As we begin the search process for the new I.H.S. Principal, we can't help but think about Scott Mosenthal and all that he has brought to the Irvington School District over these past 37 years. As "Dr. Mo" plans for his retirement, we are faced with the challenge of finding our next high school principal. In planning for this change, we are asking for your participation as we prioritize and create a leadership profile for the Irvington High School Principal. The District already held one open forum, as a way to develop a leadership profile which will guide our search process. This event was very helpful in identifying what the community would like to see in its next High School Principal. Time still remains for you to contribute to the this discussion. We hope that you will participate in the upcoming forum on Tuesday, January 22nd, 10:15 am, Irvington Public Library. We also believe that student opinions are important to this process. On February 1st, during all lunch periods, student forums will be held in the High School. Parents are strongly encouraged to motivate their children to attend.