**THE SUPERINTENDENT’S RUSE: His False Alarm** by Bob O’Baldwin

 **Last year (2012-13), the Baldwin School District had an operating budget surplus of $ 8.4 million.** Yet this year our administration chose to cut $400,000 of our most useful & popular programs e.g. sportsnite, musicals, music lessons, clubs & middle school sports.

$ 8.4 million dollars left over from last year + an additional 3.4 million dollars of spare unallocated cash. *(These numbers are from our audited financial records. Ask any board member.)* An extra $ 12 million dollars….. So why the cuts ???? After all, the state comptroller rated the school district’s financial condition as good.

**The school district played the fundraising community for chumps over chump change.** Our school administration wanted to teach the parents & students of Baldwin a lesson. If you don’t **pass school district tax hikes , you will suffer the consequences!** After all, last year, a 7% tax hike was rejected. **They threaten every spring so they followed through even though the cuts were unnecessary. They picked the cuts that would do maximum damage.**  Our educators take advantage of your trust & generosity. *Additional money for “education” has become money for educator salary & benefit raises* while the students, buildings and program lag. DON’T BE A SUCKER AGAIN . DON’T VOTE YOURSELF AN UNNECESSARY TAX HIKE.

  **P. S.** Our current superintendent, Mr. James Scannell, a native of Baldwin, a graduate of Baldwin HS, a school board member for 12 years has chosen to retire in the first year of his three year contract.  **Baldwin will have three superintendents in three years** and maybe four in four years….. DON’T BE A SUCKER AGAIN. DON’T VOTE YOURSELF AN UNNECESSARY TAX HIKE…… WWW.BALDWINBUDGET.COM