FAIRFIELD BOARD MEETING 3/20/08 NEW FAIRFIELD STADIUM

MS. MILLIGAN, DR. MORRIS AND MEMBERS OF THE BOARD,

I FIRST WISH TO THANK YOU ALL FOR THE OPPORTUNITY THAT I HAVE TONIGHT TO ADDRESS THE BOARD AND THE COMMUNITY WITH REGARDS TO THE CURRANT STATE OF OUR DISTRICTS LARGEST ATHLETIC FACILITY....THE FAIRFIELD FOOTBALL STADIUM.

AS MOST OF YOU MAY OR MAY NOT KNOW, FOR THE PAST SEVEN YEARS,...I HAVE ATTEMPTED A BOTTOM UP EFFORT TO GET A NEW STADIUM FACILITY BUILT ON THE CAMPUS OF FAIRFIELD HIGH.

AND FOR MANY AND VARIED REASONS....I HAVE LITTLE SUCCESS IN ACCOMPLISHING THIS FEAT.

DURING THIS TIME, I HAVE BEEN ABLE TO PERSONALLY INVESTIGATE WHAT MANY OTHER SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND COMMUNITIES HAVE GONE THRU IN THEIR EFFORTS TO BUILD NEW STADIUM FACILITIES FOR THEMSELVES. ONE MAJOR SIMILARITY STANDS OUT IN JUST ABOUT EACH CASE.....IT WAS A DIFFICULT EFFORT FOR MOST OF THOSE STADIUM PROJECTS TO GET OFF THE GROUND AND THAT IT WAS ALL NOT CHEAP TO DO!

LIKE US...MOST IF NOT ALL OF THESE SCHOOL DISTRICTS IN VARIOUS PARTS OF THE COUNTRY HAVE ALL HAD CHALLENGING FUNDING ISSUES IN THEIR COMMUNITIES. THE MAJORITY OF THOSE PROJECTS, THOUGH, WERE FUNDED THRU COMMUNITY DONATION EFFORTS AND CORPORATE SPONCERSHIP.

YEARS AGO, WHEN THIS SCHOOL FACILITY WAS PLANNED, THE THEN BOARD AND ADMINASTRATION DECIDED TO FORGO THE ADDITION OF A NEW STADIUM IN THE PLANS FOR THE NEW HIGH SCHOOL, BECAUSE THEY FELT THAT OUR PRESENT STADIUM HAD A FEW MORE GOOD YEARS OF SERVICE LEFT. UP TO NOW, WE HAVE INDEED BEEN ABLE STRETCH OUT THE USE OF OUR STADIUM. TODAY, WE NOW FIND OURSELVES FACING A NUMBER OF CHALLENGES WITH THE PRESENT STATE OF OUR STADIUM. THE PRELIMANARY JARRED'S LAW INSPECTION OF OUR STADIUM HAS BROUGHT TO THE FORFRONT A NUJMBER OF DEFICENCIES THAT MOST OF US HAVE KNOWN TO HAVE EXISTED WITH A STADIUM OF THE AGE AND THE DESIGN THAT OURS PRESENTS.

NOW THAT THIS BOARD HAS BEEN GIVEN SOME IDEA OF WHAT THE DOLLAR ESTIMATE IS TO MAKE THE REQUIRED REPAIRS TO THE STADIUM...IT IS MY IMPRESSION THAT WE MAY DO WELL TO CONSIDER RATHER THAN UNDERTAKING THOSE REPAIRS, THAT WE LOOK INTO BUILDING A NEW STADIUM HERE ON CAMPUS. WHAT IT IS GOING TO TAKE IS A CONCERTED EFFORT OF OUR CITIZENS, OUR ALUMNI, OUR BUSINESS LEADERS, OUR BOOSTER ORGANISATIONS AND ABOVE ALL...YOU...THE SCHOOL BORAD MEMBERS TO PUT IT OUT TO THE PUBLIC, THE OFFICIAL TOP LEVEL REQUEST THAT THE COMMUNITYS PUT TOGEATHER A WAYS AND MEANS COMITTEE TO ASSEMBLE THE PLANS AND GARNER THE FUNDS

TO BUILD A NEW COMMUNITY FUNDED STADIUM FOR FAIRFIELD.

NOW....FOR THOSE WATCHING AT HOME WHO HAVE JUST SAID TO

THEMSELVES ALOUD ..."YOU'RE ASKING US TO DO WHAT?"