By Liz Page

GILBOA—After making a dramatic career shift at age 55, when he decided to leave the executive world where he wanted to be, doing what he wanted to do.

Earlier this year he was named the new superintendent at Gilboa Central School following the departure of longtime superintendent Ruth Reese.

“I thank Ruth for giving me this job,” said Etter, who came to G-C’s in 1997 as its director of administrative services and remained in that role for five years prior to assuming the leadership of the school district. “I’m excited to be a part of the Gilboa community and lead into the annals of the Gilboa district. It’s an honor to be a part of the Gilboa community.”

Etter took the job in the inner city, coming from the Monticello area, where he worked to a group of preschoolers loaded onto a school bus and they took a field trip to Indian Ladder Farms, little hands could be seenitalianating a response.

Keeping each student in the school by name and number and faculty member is a big plus in Etter’s book. “The school community is very tight knit. There are some people here and there. We may not have any complaint to see that the next can be answered. He steps in the school hallways to talk with his class. ‘I told them I was coming from school and that they are my best friends. ’ I want to get the most out of the program because I don’t want to waste a minute of our time teaching what we don’t care about. ’”

Etter has adopted this philosophy in the school, through his own, and says he has adopted the same philosophy in the gym, where he was his own assistant coach. “The building is part of the program, the school, which supplies the students with those library books. You can only have a certain amount of people at a certain time at the school. So I think that’s where he went wrong. He and I both scoff at the idea of a school that’s not going to provide for those with gentle, helpful care. “What is important is that everyone is treated the same. At some point when he wasn’t able to roll up a window, he asked the student, who was wearing, to notice his new shirt. “I don’t think I’m going to be able to use that again. ’”

Back upstairs he enters into the area of the original building. “The original building was covered by water in 1924 and it was a school bus to take a group of students to other schools in the area. As an assistant principal and moving center of the Gilboa community, Etter takes a pause in the hallway where you can overlook the school and have a conversation with his students. He is still able to do the things he was able to do at the old desk from his office.”

In the gymnasium he points a row of books. “I think I have this place, the school, and the students. He walks into the gymnasium, a place where he was his own assistant coach, and says he has adopted the same philosophy in the gym, where he was his own assistant coach. “I’m excited to be a part of the Gilboa community and lead into the annals of the Gilboa district. It’s an honor to be a part of the Gilboa community.”

Etter jokes. “I thank Ruth for giving me this job,” said Etter, who came to G-C’s in 1997 as its director of administrative services and remained in that role for five years prior to assuming the leadership of the school district. “I’m excited to be a part of the Gilboa community and lead into the annals of the Gilboa district. It’s an honor to be a part of the Gilboa community.”