President Michael Collins opened the December 3, 2008 meeting of the Williamson Central School District Board of Education with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

George Verno, student representative, thanked everyone who came out to see the drama and commented on My Fair Lady auditions next week. He also stated that the Select Choir is going to Blossom View Nursing Home tomorrow for Christmas caroling and other groups will also go to carol and pass out gifts to the residents. The giving tree at the high school is in full swing. The first girls’ basketball game is tonight in Sodus and their first home game is Friday. The High School Holiday concert will be held on December 15.

Under Reports from District Administrators, Miss Anne Ressler reported that two teams of teachers presented at the New York State Technology conference last weekend. Christi Graves, Carol Fox, Patty Sheridan and Cassidy Dailey presented new technologies that they have been using with their students. Jamie Sonneville was also recognized as a grant recipient at the conference. Miss Ressler also highlighted the reading continuum program that she observed in Mrs. Christi Graves and Mrs. Stacey Newmyer’s classes. She commented on the flexibility of the program and how students are getting the appropriate instruction to address their particular learning needs. Mr. John Fulmer commented on the good attendance at report card night with approximately 62% of parents in attendance. He also commented on the student achievement assemblies that were held last week. He recognized Mrs. Karen Stitt who was honored for her work on the mural in the gymnasium. He acknowledged Mrs. Nancy Weber for the accommodations she made when there was a busing difficulty with the Mission to Mars field trip to the Rochester Museum & Science Center. Mr. Patrick Wright commented on Immigration Day that was held for eighth grade students. Miss Ellen Saxby commented on recent fund raisers including the seventh grade UNICEF collection that raised $1078 and the Volunteer Club that ran a canned food drive and will be bell ringing at Breen’s. She recognized the seventh grade team for launching a homework club to support students in their classes. Mrs. Wanda Miller highlighted the 8:1:2 fourth through sixth grade class for their recent harvest dinner and the work that is being done by co-teaching teams at the high school. Mr. Gary Barno commented on the extra-classroom audit and the single audit of the federally funded program. Both of these reportedly went very well with improvements over the last audit. He also indicated that he will be bringing the Plan Document for the 403b program to the next meeting so that all aspects can be put into place before the January deadline. Mr. Mark Schichtel reported that 123 students participated in the honor roll luncheon and he thanked PTSA for their donation of pizza. He also reported that over 30 students will be going on the Project Urge trip on Friday and on Saturday students will be working at Eastview Mall on the Salvation Army’s red kettle drive. He highlighted Jessica Craft who is utilizing activities learned on health and wellness day in her classroom. Mr. Doug Lauf reported on Report Card Night with just under
60% of parents in attendance and the Senior Trip to Florida where students had a great time and demonstrated excellent behavior. Many people complimented the group on their behavior. He highlighted Mr. Kevin Delehanty for his portfolio project that students have begun and commented that the students were excited with the choices that they were given in the project. He also reported that a lock down drill was held at the high school yesterday. Superintendent Ehresman stated that there will not be a mid-year aid cut but next year may look worse. The actual numbers for state aide will be published December 16. The administrative team will be meeting over the holiday break to look at options. She also indicated that the tax cap is still a possibility and that schools with under 1000 students enrolled may be made to consolidate. She will be working on a grant that will investigate the possibilities for regional high schools that would enable students to have more program options.

Board Committee Reports included updates on Report Card Night at the Middle and High Schools which were well-attended again this year. Comments were also made on the Policy Committee and Curriculum Council.

Several CSE cases were approved and the Board reviewed the quarterly updates of the Action Plans, the Fall Sports Program and the K-12 Academic Achievement Report. Highlights of the Academic Achievement Report included:

- 63% of seniors are on honor rolls
- At every grade level, the Elementary School has 65% or more students performing as high achieving and highest achievers
- Many students are on the improvement rolls at the Middle and High Schools

There was discussion regarding the areas of concern and a review of specific strategies to address the needs of struggling students.

With the approval of the Consent Agenda, several substitutes and volunteers were approved. The Board also approved the permanent appointment of Donna Cairns as Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent and accepted with regret the retirement resignation of Jan Crudele-Reiss, Typist, Elementary School, effective January 23, 2009, after 29 years of service. Anne Ressler commented on the retirement of Jan Crudele-Reiss and what a loss it will be to the building. She will be missed by all. The Board also approved the second readings of several policies and accepted the donation of Varsity Cheerleading Uniforms from the Williamson Cheerleader Booster Club. Mr. Robert Wendler thanked the Cheerleader Booster Club for their generous donation.

Under New Business, the Board approved the first reading of two policies, the Revised Non-Monroe County Municipal School District Program Resolution to Provide Health Benefits and an unpaid Leave of Absence for Joanne Scheib, Student Aide, Middle School. They also approved the tenure appointment of Carole Picha, Elementary Teacher. The Board rejected all bids received for snow plowing and agreed to re-bid the snow removal contract for the 2008-09 school year.