President Michael Collins opened the December 4, 2013 meeting of the Williamson Central School District Board of Education with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

Student Representative Ciara Chelini reported that the drama department is presenting *A Christmas Carol* and the winter sports season is underway. She highlighted the work being done in Drawing and Painting II art class with examples of acrylic art work done by several students.

Under Reports from District Administrators, Wendy Havens commented on recent classroom observations in the high school Learning Center and Stacey Newmyer’s class at the elementary school. She reported that the coordinator of the Strengthening Teacher and Leader Effectiveness, Rebecca Coyle, visited the district and was excited about the enthusiasm she saw from the administrators, coaches and teachers. A new STLE grant application has been submitted for continued funding. Mrs. Havens highlighted Tom Schulte for his recent grading in-service work which has been very successful. Doug Lauf highlighted the learning community at the high school. He reported that the positive climate and culture that began at the start of the school year remains in place with overall student referrals down significantly. Ellen Saxby reported that the elementary school is busy preparing for the upcoming production of Disney’s *My Son Pinocchio Junior* which will be performed on December 13 and 14 in the Middle School Auditorium. She highlighted Christi Byron and Barb Hunn for their work with the 75 students involved in the production. She also highlighted the Response to Intervention team – Barb Tomeno, Christie Graves, Michelle Seniuk and Karen Hoody – for their work in the recent case reviews. She expressed her appreciation to Caroline Jackson on behalf of the elementary school administrators and teachers for sorting the grade level modules. Karen Hoody reported on her recent training in Albany which focused on core knowledge for students in UPK through Grade 2. The information will be shared with the teachers at a faculty meeting. She also reported that Sue Collins and Amy Vandergrift will also share the information on Grades 3 and 4 with teachers at a future meeting. She highlighted Stacey Newmyer and her exceptional guided reading lessons. Wanda Miller highlighted the district counselors and psychologists for the work they do for students and the support they offer to the families. She also highlighted two of the district’s newest teaching assistants – Kara Steinmetz and DeeDee Eaton. The students are actively engaged in a wonderful learning and respectful environment. John Fulmer shared a letter from a student to health teacher Deb DelPlato. The student thanked Mrs. DelPlato for teaching her the Heimlich maneuver because she was able to use it to save her friend who was choking. He reported that the 6th grade students recently participated in a field trip to the Rochester Museum and Science Center and the Mission to Mars program. The field trip has a broad impact on students, teachers and parents. Gary Barno reported that Lorie Abbott, Brenda Gowan and Jessica Burggraaff attended a workshop to learn about the new updates to the district’s finance system. It is anticipated that the district will migrate to the new system within the next 18 months. Superintendent Macaluso reported on the eduACTION rally held on November 20. Rick Timbs did a wonderful job.
explaining the inequities in the current education funding formulas. Superintendent Macaluso also provided an update to the board on the Wayne County Administrators proposal to repeal the county sales tax from school districts. The Wayne County Administrators do not have concrete proposals for the funds if they are no longer shared with the districts nor have they determined how the money would be divided between the municipalities or if the monies will be kept at the county level. The county administrators are anticipating various scenarios of what they could do with the funds while school districts are concerned over what they will no longer be able to do if they lose the funds. He announced that the district will host an information session for parents about the district’s implementation of the Common Core State Standards on January 23 at the High School. At the event, information will be presented to parents on the six shifts that apply to all grade levels, what it means for students and resources available for parents. Additional information will be posted on the district website and in district newsletters. He highlighted Wendy Havens for her recent work on the district’s APPR plan and the reporting required for the STLE grant. Both projects are time consuming but her attention to detail and knowledge of the subject matter is applauded.

Superintendent Macaluso introduced Cathie Abdunnasir and members of the Williamson Marauder Leadership Council. The students introduced themselves and explained the council is a new group to the Middle School focused on facilitating a leadership project. Their proposal for the 2013-2014 year is to create a school garden behind the Middle School with lettuce, tomatoes and several other vegetables that will be served in the middle school cafeteria. They have spoken with Yvonne Forget, Food Service Director and Terry Pulver, Director of Facilities and both have given their approval and support for the project. The group plans to hold several fundraisers and will have a booth at the Williamson Learning Fair on March 15 where the community can participate by creating seedlings and stepping stones for the garden. Future plans include an herb garden, a butterfly garden and installation of a bench. A presentation will be made to the student body at upcoming assemblies. Students will be offered the opportunity to join in sub groups which will take care of all aspects of the garden.

Board Committee Reports included updates on Report Card Night, Policy Committee, and the PTSA meeting. School Business Administrator Gary Barno reviewed the Treasurer’s Report and several CSE cases were approved.

With the approval of the Consent Agenda, several substitutes, volunteers and winter sport supervisors were approved along with the following:

- Resignation of Sheila Knowlden, part-time food service worker effective November 27, 2013
- Probationary appointment of Patricia Kiesinger, part-time food service worker effective December 2, 2013
- Change of appointment for Brenda Raymer from probationary full-time student aide to permanent full-time student aide effective November 22, 2013

Under New Business, the Board approved the following items:

- The 2013-2014 Budget Calendar (for 2014-2015 budget)
- A merged Williamson/Marion Varsity cheerleading team