February 12, 2010

The regular meeting of the Williamson Central School District Board of Education was held on February 10, 2010. Under Reports to the Board, Samantha McIntosh, student representative, reported that the Snow Ball Semi-Formal was very successful and that the Varsity cheerleaders took first place while the Junior Varsity cheerleaders took third place at the Wayne County Cheerleading Competition. She also shared that there will be a High School Pep Rally for the wrestlers who are competing in Super Sectionals at Rochester Institute of Technology. She announced that upcoming high school events include - Small Ensemble and Art Show on March 11, the musical You’re a Good Man Charlie Brown on March 26-27 and the District Vocal Concert on March 30.

During Reports from District Administrators, Wendy Havens thanked Wanda Miller, the building administrators, and the special education providers in the district for their participation in planning meetings for special education students for next year. Mark Schichtel thanked Andy Wahl, Jackie Fox, Yvonne Forget and Amy Hanna for their hard work in organizing the Intergenerational Dance which was very enjoyable for those who attended. Doug Lauf stated that it is very busy at the high school and reported that discipline referrals have been significantly less this year in comparison to last year. He also highlighted Jamie Sonneville for her work in developing the district’s technology program and announced that Mark Montondo and Samantha McIntosh will appear on the Channel 13 morning show February 25 to perform a tap dance. John Fulmer described the Middle School’s Starfish Program which has staff reaching out to students who are struggling in school. He highlighted Jack Matthys, Joan Frank and Deanne Kuter for their work with students who benefit from extra attention. He also shared books that Rich Rozzi’s students created with high school art students for Christmas. Ellen Saxby commented that there was a parent night for the Gettysburg trip. She acknowledged Erica Hernandez and all the people who helped her with the recent presentation of “Once Upon An Island”. With the help of many student volunteers, over $1,600 was raised for UNICEF to assist with relief efforts in Haiti. Over 100 students participated in the show which was wonderful. Anne Ressler commented that a group of six teachers from the Wayne Central School District visited the Elementary School to see the Fundations program in action. She thanked Tracy Schoonerman, Christy Graves, Barb Tomeno and Sandy Kane for their work in hosting the visits. Students are also participating in Jump Rope for Heart for the American Heart Association and several students formed a committee which is organizing a loose change drive to benefit Haiti. Wanda Miller commented on a meeting that was held with special education teachers from the middle and high school with a focus on easing the transition for students entering ninth grade. Gary Barno commented on the upcoming internal audit. Superintendent Ehresman commented that there was a meeting with fourth grade parents to discuss plans for next year. A considerable
amount of time has been devoted to the budget with a press conference and meetings with Senator Michael Nozzolio and Assemblyman Bob Oakes.

Under the Consent Agenda the appointments of several substitutes and a volunteer were approved along with the following:

- resignation of Mark Schichtel, Assistant High School Principal
- appointment of Tori Kolyer as a Long Term Substitute for Jessica Burggraaff, Senior Typist, Elementary School
- appointment of Racquel Bushart as a Long Term Substitute for Shaye Tanner, Teaching Assistant, High School

The following Spring Coaching appointments were also approved:

Jeff VanHoover  Varsity Boys Track
Carl Comstock  JV Boys Track
Mary Freischlag  Varsity Girls Track
Joanna Alexander  JV Girls Track
Deanne Kuter  Junior High Track
Jack Matthys  Junior High Track
Harry Halldow  Varsity Baseball
Mark Ameele  JV Baseball
Brian Steurrs  Junior High Baseball
Scott Kingsbury  Varsity Girls Softball
Jeff White  JV Girls Softball
Julie Hillegeer  Junior High Softball
Kevin Delehanty  Tennis
Sandra Yaskow  Modified A Tennis
Mark Cottrell  Golf

Under New Business, the board approved the paid/unpaid Maternity and Child Rearing leave for Jamie Sonneville, Technology Coordinator/Integration Specialist, and the first readings of Policy 8151 – Acceptable Use Policy and Policy 8470 – Service Animals in the School District.

Superintendent Ehresman commented on the governor’s proposal for aid to school districts. The proposal was reported as cut of 5% in aid to schools. In our district the cut amounts to 5.5% of this year’s budget. In more affluent schools, that are less dependent on state aid, the amount that their budget is impacted is actually less than 1%. Everyone understands that cuts need to be made, it is hoped that the cuts will be made equitably across the state.