



Williamson Central



WILLIAMSON CENTRAL SCHOOL
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FEBRUARY 28, 2014

The February 26, 2014 meeting of the Williamson Central School District Board of Education was opened by President Michael Collins with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence. Gary Barno, School Business Administrator presented an update on the proposed budget for the 2014-2015 school year. He discussed the Governor's reduction of state aid through the Gap Elimination Adjustment (GEA) and its effect on the 2014-2015 budget. The Governor's proposal eliminates nearly \$1.2 million in state aid for the District. Since 2008-2009, the District has lost \$7.3 million due to the GEA. The combination of the GEA, tax cap, and rising costs in health care and retirement funding is making it difficult for the District to balance the budget without severe cuts across the board to programs and staffing. The District will again need to tap into reserves to help balance the budget, but this year it will require voter approval. In an effort to save money this year, the District has enacted mid-year cuts to materials and supplies in every building, reduced the Director of Facilities position and brought back one special education program from Wayne-Finger Lakes BOCES to the District to save costs. Any savings realized by these actions can be applied towards next year's budget. The District will continue to look at all areas to cut costs which may include increases in class sizes, cutting non-mandated programs and staff reductions through attrition. The full budget presentation which lists the non-mandated areas is available to view on the District website. Mr. Barno, Superintendent Macaluso and the Board of Education are strongly encouraging District residents to voice their concerns regarding Governor Cuomo's education budget to their state representatives. As a result of the letter writing campaign last year, the District did see an increase in aid.

Student Representative Ciara Chelini reported that the Winter Sports season has ended and the Spring Sports season will begin next week. Students are in rehearsal for the spring musical *Meet Me in St. Louis*. Student Courtney Hill spoke to the Board about activities that took place at the high school surrounding the P.S. I Love You Day. It is a campaign started by a high school student from Long Island in an effort to stand up against bullying, bring awareness to those suffering from depression and prevent suicide. During the week of February 10, positive poems, quotes and messages were shared during forum as reminders to all students that they are cared about.

Under reports from the District Administrators, Wendy Havens reported that she has had the opportunity to observe several new teachers who are doing an exceptional job. Amy Vandergrift highlighted Nicole Lock and the rigorous chemistry lesson that was a part of teacher rounds. Doug Lauf informed the Board that eleven Williamson High School students will have their work displayed as part of the Wayne County High School Art Show on March 9. Wanda Miller reported on her visit to the Roosevelt Children's Center to observe incoming Kindergarten students and is pleased with their progress. Karen Hoody also reported on teacher rounds done at the Elementary School and highlighted Stephanie Gowan's kindergarten class. She also highlighted Christi Graves and Heather Maloney for their work in developing a parent communication piece for a reading initiative at the Elementary School. Ellen Saxby reported that the Elementary School participated in the American Heart Association Jump Rope for Heart campaign. The students raised over \$14,000 and she expressed her appreciation to Bill Mitchell and Dan Schoonerman for their work in coordinating the events. She also reported she was invited to observe a class activity in Heather Ambrosi's 4th grade class in which they created a class constitution. This was the end product of a module and an excellent example of how a module can tie into a cross curricular activity. She also commented that there are two Odyssey of the Mind teams competing on March 8 at Churchville Chili High School. John Fulmer also commented that the Middle School's Odyssey of the Mind team will be at the March 8 competition. Mr. Fulmer reported on the recent observations of Teaching Assistants and the work they are doing with their

teachers and in small student groups. He highlighted Robin Mason and her 6th grade science class that was actively engaged in a lab related to healthy living. Superintendent Macaluso reported that he will be attending the New York State Council of School Superintendents Winter Conference in Albany. As part of the conference he will be meeting with our local legislators. He also reported on his informal observations in the buildings and how impressed he is with the teaching staff, support staff and student participation. He commented that the High School principal search is well underway.

Board committee reports included updates on the National Honor Society Induction, the Intergenerational Dance Pancake Breakfast, High School Cabaret, Policy Committee and Building and Grounds Committee meeting. The Board reviewed both the Treasurer's Report and Quarterly Academic Achievement Report.

The Board heard a report from Luisa Scarrone a foreign exchange student from Italy who is staying with the VanNostrand family. She expressed her appreciation to the board for the opportunity to attend school in Williamson. She has played volleyball, participated in the musical and plans to play softball in the spring. She has shared with her classmates her culture and learned a lot from them as well. The Board also heard from the Instructional Coaches on the work they are doing with teachers in all grade levels to assist with the new standards and the modules in both ELA and Math. The coaches are Mary Lyons, Karen Hoody, Amy Vandergrift, Sue Collins and Nina Caraveo. The funding for the coaches comes from the Strengthening Teacher and Leadership Effectiveness grants. Williamson has been awarded \$135,250 in the third round of the STLE grant.

The coaches are looking forward to continuing to provide the services for the 2014-2015 school year and are planning for the structure of the service for the future.

The board approved several CSE case summaries. Under the consent agenda the board approved the appointment of several substitutes and volunteers. They accepted the resignations of Stephanie Poole, Teaching Assistant, Middle School, Christy Hout, Teaching Assistant High School and Susan Anseeuw, Cleaner, High School along with the following appointments and change of appointments:

- Spring Coaching Appointments:

Jeff VanHoover	Varsity Boys Track
Carl Comstock	JV Boys Track
Mary Freischlag	Varsity Girls Track
Dan Sackett	JV Girls Track
Deb DelPlato	Junior High Track
Jack Matthys	Junior High Track
Brian Steurys	Varsity Baseball
Mark Ameele	JV Baseball
Ian Thomas	Junior High Baseball
Scott Kingsbury	Varsity Girls Softball
Jeff White	JV Girls Softball
John Vitalone	Junior High Softball
Kevin Delehanty	Tennis
Sandra Yaskow	Modified A Tennis
Mark Cottrell	Golf

- Extra-curricular appointment of Patrick Verbridge, Ski Club for the 2013-2014 school year
- Dustin Shove, long-term substitute for Christy Hout, Teaching Assistant, High School
- Roger Becker, Interim High School Principal effective March 24, 2014 through June 30, 2014
- Change of appointment for Kelly Dixon from Clerk Typist to Senior Clerk Typist
- Change of appointment for Jessica Shaver from Probationary Full-Time Nurse to Permanent Full-Time Nurse
- Change of appointment for Abby Gowan from Probationary Full-Time Senior Clerk Typist to Permanent Full-Time Senior Clerk Typist
- Change of appointment for Charlotte Furman from classified substitute to Probationary Full-Time Cleaner

- Change of appointment for Amy Avery from probationary part-time student aide to probationary full-time student aide

The board approved an unpaid leave of absence for Deb Yackel 2nd grade teacher, Elementary School, for February 14, 2014 and Brenda Dixon Student Aide, for February 24-25, 2014

Under separate motions the board accepted with regret and best wishes the resignations/retirements for the following individuals:

- Resignation of Jamie Sonnevile, .6 Technology Integration Specialist, effective March 28, 2014
- Resignation of Douglas Lauf, High School Principal, effective March 28, 2014, 11 years of service
- Retirement/resignation of Sue Collins, 5th Grade Teacher, Middle School, effective June 30, 2014, 30 years of service
- Retirement/resignation of Wendy Havens, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction, effective September 6, 2014, 13 years of service

Under Old Business the board approved the second reading of Policy 8520 – Committee on Special Education/Committee on Preschool Special Education and had a further discussion of the 2014-2015 proposed budget.

Under New Business the board accepted two donations from the PTSA in the amount of \$595 to support the purchase of Kindle e-readers at the Middle School and in the amount of \$1791.50 to support the purchase of a Middle School building sign to be installed in the spring.

The board approved the Resolution for Lead Evaluator for Teachers and the Resolution to Immediately End the Gap Elimination Adjustment. The Gap Elimination Adjustment resolution is available to view on the Board of Education site of the District webpage under the Board Documents tab.