The March 20, 2013 meeting of the Williamson Central School District Board of Education was opened by President Michael Collins. Superintendent Ehresman reviewed the budget development process to date. The district has maintained a flat budget of $20 million for five years which is becoming very hard to do. In addition to some savings from retirements the district is looking at additional cuts in equipment, materials and technology. In order to make up the remaining shortfall, it will be necessary to increase the tax rate which will fall under the tax cap. The projected increase is 3.67% or $0.86/$1,000 assessed. The overall budget has increased 2.36% to $20,991,455. She indicated that recent state budget talks have mentioned increased education aid, but it is still not known how much the district may receive. If the district does receive additional aid, the funds could be used to add a teaching position back, reduce the use of the reserves or lower the tax levy. The budget presentation can be viewed on the district webpage and facebook page.

Student representative Elizabeth DeFisher reported that the spring sports teams are preparing for the season and that the Sound of Music was performed for the community senior citizens. She also reported that the district vocal concert will be March 26 and that both teachers and students are working hard prior to spring break. The reports from the district administrators began with Ellen Saxby highlighting the Enrichment Team - Larissa Juliano and Rich Rozzi - for the great job they did at the Learning Fair. She observed the 3rd and 4th graders in a storytelling session that was very impressive. She reported that the Elementary School is completing preparations for the state tests. Amy Busby highlighted the technology and maintenance departments for installing the Smartboards that are now in use in the kindergarten classrooms. Teachers in the Elementary School will take part in training on the Smartboards during the Superintendent Conference Day. Andrew Wahl expressed his appreciation to the Board of Education and the Williamson community for their support during his 16 years in the district as an educator. He also expressed his appreciation to his fellow administrators for their support and encouragement. Doug Lauf highlighted Tracy O’Hara and Kristen Collins for the work they did with the 8th grade students in preparation for their transition to high school next year. He also highlighted Gabi Sears and Jessica Craft for their anti-bullying presentation. Several students volunteered to participate in the powerful presentation. He expressed his good wishes to Mr. Wahl in his new role as principal of Palmyra-Macedon High School. John Fulmer reminded the board that Medieval Days will take place at the Middle School, a highlight on the school calendar, and thanked the 6th grade team for their hard work in preparation for the activities. He also thanked Tracy O’Hara, Kristen Collins and the student link crew at the high school for their work with the 8th students and parents in preparation for the transition to high school. Wendy Havens updated the board on the ELA implementation. Grades 6-8 began to use the new modules upon return from the February break and success stories are beginning to emerge. It is anticipated that in the fall 2013, the 9th grade modules will be introduced. She highlighted Amy Busby, Amy Vandergrift, Christie Graves and Sue Collins for their role as cheerleaders to the teachers that are working hard to put the new modules into action. She expressed her appreciation to the teachers for their hard work on a daily basis. She also highlighted her assistant Laurie Bischoff for her hard work in collecting and entering student data that involves linking each course we offer to a state course code so teachers are linked to students in the state system. Gary Barno reported that the Medicaid cost report is complete and he highlighted Wanda Miller and Annette Whitmore for their assistance in getting the report done. He also reported that the restructuring of the bonds is complete. The savings as a result of the restructuring will be $15,000 this year and $135,000 over the next nine years. Superintendent Ehresman reported that the NY State tests this year for grades 3-8 will have a new look and focus. In years past, the indicator was whether the students were ready to graduate. The new indicator is whether a student is ready for college. As a result of the changes, it is anticipated that students’ scores will drop. Engageny.org is a wonderful

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website with tools for teachers, parents and families. The Parent & Family Resource tab has examples of modules and other resources related to the Common Core. She highlighted her secretary Donna Cairns for coordinating the superintendent search between the board and Dr. Glover, Genesee Valley BOCES.

Board Committee Reports included comments about the lower attendance at the Learning Fair this year. The Middle School Student Support Team of Kristen Collins, Ann Dewhirst, Brian Chaffee and Kelly Zimmerman presented an overview of the support services they provide. This group provides support to students as well as parents and teachers as they navigate the learning process. They routinely work with teachers, staff and administrators with the goal of helping all students to be successful in school. They develop academic improvement plans, teach life skills, bullying prevention, and instruction in drug, alcohol, tobacco awareness programs as well as providing social/emotional support to students as needed.

The Board approved several CSE case summaries. Under the Consent Agenda, the board approved the resignation of Glen Paylor, Permanent full-time cleaner, effective 3/8/13, the appointment of several substitutes as well as the following appointments and change in appointments:

**Appointments**
- Sue Collins and Mary Lyons as Strengthening Teacher and Leader Effectiveness (STLE) grant funded coaches for the 2013-2014 school year
- Aaron Ditty, long-term substitute Science Teacher for the remainder of the 2012-2013 school year

**Change in Appointments**
- Kelly Dixon from teacher aide to 12-month Clerk Typist effective 2/25/13
- Amy Vandergrift from a 1.0 Special Education Teacher, Middle School to a 0.5 Special Education Teacher/0.5 Staff Developer (grant funded) for the 2013-2014 school year
- Nina Caraveo from a 1.0 Math Teacher, Middle School to a 0.5 Math Teacher/0.5 Instructional Coach (grant funded) for the 2013-2014 school year
- Kevin Winter from classified substitute to probationary full-time cleaner, at a rate of $9.96/hour effective 3/22/13

Under Old Business the board discussed the status of the Capital Project that is currently under review by the NYS Education Department. It does not appear that the approval will be done in time to begin the project this summer. The board discussed the urgent items on the list that needed to be completed this summer and agreed to move forward with those items pending final approval. The board also discussed the budget and the proposed tax rate increase. After discussing the matter, the board feels that they have done their best to be frugal during these very difficult times and an increase is warranted.

Under New Business the board approved the First Reading of Policy 6240 – Evaluation of Personnel, the instructor fees for the Adult Education 2013 Spring Semester, a Maternity and Child Rearing Leave for Amanda Ryan for the 2013-2014 school year, and the following action items:
- Resolution to establish the 2013 Bus Purchase Reserve Fund
- Bond Resolution for the Capital Project
- Propositions for the 2013 Budget Hearing
- A leave of absence for Karen Hoody, Reading Teacher, Middle School for the 2013-2014 school year
- Appointment of Karen Hoody, Administrative Intern, Elementary School for the 2013-2014 school year
- An hourly stipend for Donna Cairns, District Clerk for attendance at superintendent search committee meetings

The board discussed the dates and location for the summer workshop meetings.