Board of Education President Richard Jordan opened the April 12, 2006 meeting of the Williamson Central School District Board of Education with the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence. Under Announcements, Superintendent Maria Ehresman recognized Laurie Verbridge with a plaque and flowers for her many years of service to the children of the Williamson Central School District. Mr. Jordan announced that the handicapped accessible door was unlocked for the meeting, as they had requested.

With the approval of the Consent Agenda, several substitutes and volunteers were approved along with Warren Gregg as part-time Groundskeeper, Heather Krochmalech as part-time Monitor and Brandy Stewart as Summer Camp Coordinator. In addition, a change of appointment to Monitor was approved for Mary Jo Bailey and a maternity/child care leave was approved for Andrea Habecker. Budget Vote inspectors were also approved.

Under Reports from District Administrators, Mr. John Fulmer announced that Medieval Day would occur at the Middle School on April 13, and he applauded the sixth grade teachers and all of the other teachers who have been a part of the extensive planning of co-curricular activities for the students. Miss Anne Ressler commented that the elementary television-free week would begin on April 24 and that the children and their families are encouraged to give up television for the week. Mrs. Wanda Miller commented on an excellent lesson on writing that she observed taught by Mrs. Stacey Newmyer and Mrs. Chris Sharp at the Elementary School. She also reported that personal reminder phone calls to parents about C.S.E. meetings have resulted in better meeting attendance. Miss Lewis reported that Mr. Carl Comstock was the first teacher ever recognized by two students in R.I.T.’s outstanding, influential teacher program. She also applauded Leela Shields for the second place finish she and her team achieved at the Skills U.S.A. competition that was held recently in Syracuse. Miss Lewis highlighted Mrs. Michele Fisler’s use of the Jigsaw active learning strategy to open her unit on the novel To Kill a Mockingbird, the Credit Recovery program where Mr. Patrick Verbridge is servicing approximately fourteen students and Eric Scheffinger who won the February Principal’s Recognition Award. Miss Ellen Saxby recognized Mrs. Cathie Abdunmasir and Mr. Rich Rozzi for their hard work on Learning Fair, which was well attended and was an excellent day. Superintendent Ehresman commented on the recent Superintendent’s Conference Days, which were well received by faculty and staff.

Board Committee Reports included updates on the Capital Project, the REACH meeting and the ELA subcommittee. Mr. Jordan also commented on the recent District Wide concert that had an amazing finish with students from all three buildings performing together. The Board also reviewed the Elementary Academic Achievement Report, the Treasurer’s Report and approved a number of CSE case summaries. Jodi Prideaux, Ginny Kuryla and Dan Sherman conducted a
Smart Board demonstration for the Board that included highlights of how they are being used in their classrooms and the students’ positive response.

The Board approved the Audit Committee Charter under Old Business. In addition, after some discussion, the Board adopted the 2006-2007 Williamson Central School District Budget in the amount of $18,792,757. This budget represents a $ .73 per thousand increase on the tax rate, which represents a 2.91% tax rate increase. Included in the $.73 increase is a one-time increase of $.54 for the capital project.

Under New Business, the Board tabled the first readings of three policies until the next meeting. The Board recognized Jeffrey Van Deusen, Daniel Ohlrich and Perry Plyter for their many years of service to the students of the District and accepted their retirement resignations with regret and best wishes. They also accepted the resignation of Ann Minier with regret and best wishes.

During Public Participation, Mrs. Linda Barber asked several questions about the Elementary Academic Achievement Report.