



Williamson Central



**WILLIAMSON CENTRAL SCHOOL
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MAY 10, 2013

Superintendent Ehresman presented the proposed budget for the 2013-2014 school year at the May 8, 2013 meeting of the Williamson Board of Education. The budget has been flat over the past five years. The state aid that is received for the 2013-14 school year remains at the same level as the 2006-07 school year. The goal is to create a budget that is fair to taxpayers that will provide our students a world class education. In order to reach this point, the district was able to realize savings through attrition, elimination or reduction of non-mandated programs and additional reductions to equipment, supplies and technology. Even with additional monies received from the state and the use of reserve funds, the estimated rate increase will be 2.79% or \$0.65 per \$1,000 assessed. This increase is below the tax cap limit. The school STAR Exemptions were reviewed. This year taxpayers will vote on three propositions which include the budget, the purchase of new buses and establishing a bus purchase reserve fund.

The complete budget presentation can be reviewed at www.williamsoncentral.org under Budget.

Principals Ellen Saxby, John Fulmer and Doug Lauf presented highlights of their buildings. Each building offers a variety of extracurricular activities to students outside of the school day such as athletics, musicals, and clubs. The buildings continue traditional activities such as Big Pumpkin Day, Grandparents Day, Medieval Days, Snowball Dance and Senior class activities. Both the middle and high school offer a variety of courses that help students prepare for college and career.

Board candidate Michael Collins introduced himself and stated he is running for re-election because he believes in the district, the employees and the community. He also believes in the work the board is doing and would like to continue to serve the community in this way.

Under Reports from District Administrators, Wendy Havens highlighted the students in Mrs. Blakey's chemistry class who took part in recent teacher visitations. The students were attentive, polite and offered insightful comments on the lessons they received. Kathryn Taylor highlighted the work done by Christine Dobie as part of her National Honor Society (NHS) project. Miss Dobie is repainting the Marauder mascot and is including middle school students in her project. Doug Lauf reported that the Advanced Placement (AP) exams have begun. He announced the Sound of Music production received several awards at Stars of Tomorrow - individual awards to Courtney Hill, Katy Kolyer and Adam Johnson and group awards including outstanding production crew, outstanding dance ensemble, outstanding singing ensemble, and outstanding musical production. He also announced that two students from Masterminds - Paul Sperr and Andy Luke - were named Mastermind All Stars. Ellen Saxby announced that MAPS testing is complete at the Elementary School and recognized Amy Busby and Paula Shultes for their hard work during testing. She reported that the recent PTSA book fair was a huge success and proceeds will be used to supplement classroom libraries. Amy Busby reported on the after school

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activities in the library. John Fulmer reported that MAPs testing will begin in the middle school and he highlighted Della Ludwig and Cathie Abdunnasir for coordinating an author visit with Karen Levine who wrote the book Hana's Suitcase. The visit was done using the distance learning technology in conjunction with five other school districts. Wanda Miller expressed her appreciation to Donna Brooks from BOCES for her assistance in helping to improve the district's scores on the NYS Report Card. Gary Barno highlighted Yvonne Forget for continuing to run a financially healthy food service program. Superintendent Ehresman highlighted Tim Tyler and Della Ludwig for the distance learning program and she recognized Michelle Seniuk and her team for creating Gloria's Garden at the Elementary School in memory of Gloria Decker.

Kate Taylor and Karen Hoody representing the Middle School Response to Intervention team (RTI) presented an overview and update on the program. They reviewed how student referrals are received and various interventions that take place at different levels to assist the students. They also shared several success stories. The members of the RTI team are: Christine Wing, Nina Caraveo, Kelly Dixon and Kristen Collins. The team comes from a place of concern with the goal to help each student have the best education experience.

Wendy Havens, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction, presented an Update on the Common Core Curriculum. She reviewed how the process began and the training our teachers received. Revisions to the curriculum began last year and Williamson is right on track according to NYS Education Department guidelines. The district has implemented the NYS Learns curriculum management software which offers teachers a range of resources. The district continues to attend Network Team Training in Albany and provide turnkey training to our teachers. Next year the modules will continue to be introduced. At the high school level, the modules will be introduced at a different pace. Implementation of the Common Core Curriculum follows the district's philosophy of doing what's right for children.

Assistant Superintendent Havens also presented the Academic Achievement Report and reviewed the NYS School Report Card. The NYS Report Card uses Measurable Objectives as a way of looking at students. It is important to note that Williamson has met all annual objectives set by the state and is considered a district and school in good standing. Mrs. Havens also reviewed the changes in the way the state analyzes the data. The full report card is available for review on the district webpage.

The Board approved several CSE case summaries and reviewed the Treasurer's Report. Under the Consent Agenda the board accepted the resignation of Chad Smith, .5 Physical Education Teacher, Middle School, and approved the appointment of several substitutes, several summer appointments and the following changes in appointments:

- Timothy Tyler from Long-Term Substitute to Technology Director
- Jamie Sonnevile from .8 Technology Director to .6 Technology Integration Specialist

In a separate action, the board accepted the retirement/resignation of Gloria Pierce, Library Clerk, Middle School, effective 6/30/13, 28 years of service.

Under New Business the Board approved changes to Regulation 4150R Vacation Days for Administrators, the new course offerings for the high school for the 2013-14 school year and the appointment of Dr. Greg Macaluso, Superintendent of Schools, effective July 1, 2013. The board also discussed the Request for Proposal (RFP) summary for a new school attorney effective July 1, 2013.