The September 22, 2010 meeting of the Williamson Central School District Board of Education was held in the Middle School cafeteria.

Under Reports from District Administrators, Wendy Havens highlighted Erica Hernandez for the outstanding job she did with her seventh and eighth grade chorus. With over 70 students in the room, Mrs. Hernandez managed the group very well and the students sounded wonderful. Doug Lauf reported that Thursday, September 23, 2010 is Open House at the High School and next week is Homecoming Week. He highlighted Gabrielle Sears and Jessica Craft for their work with Student Council in the activities planned for Spirit Week. He also recognized Terry Pulver who has been working hard to prepare the grounds for Homecoming during which there will be a bench and tree dedicated in memory of Clayton DeFisher. Ellen Saxby reported that Jamie Sonneville did a wonderful technology in-service with the new teachers and the group was very motivated and excited. She highlighted Michele Fisler for her work with her AP English class where the dialog was phenomenal. John Fulmer stated that things have been going well for the Middle School. Representatives from Wal-Mart came to the school and awarded five $100 gift certificates to teachers and it was much appreciated. He highlighted Cathie Abdunnasir for working with a student after school to work on his organization skills. The student’s grandparent wrote a note indicating that the student is very excited and feels good about coming to school. He also highlighted Rachel Young and her team for the differentiated math lessons that they conducted with the students in their class. Anne Ressler reported that five teachers in the Elementary School also received certificates from Wal-Mart and Mark’s Pizzeria is currently supporting the Nobel Pizza Prize program which recognizes students for random acts of kindness. She highlighted the Able Team for their hard work on the Action Plans and the RTI Team for their work in organizing information for at-risk students this year. She also commented that the Delphi Program has been part of the elementary curriculum for years. Wanda Miller indicated that Susan Steels will be working with at-risk students through a grant funded program focusing on keeping students in school and developing social skills. She thanked Annette Whitmore and Lori VanAcker for their hard work in making sure that everyone had the information needed for a smooth start to the school year. Gary Barno updated the board on audits that are being conducted and losses in state aid. In total, the district has lost 1.1% of Star Aid and 0.67% of general aid funding which totals an additional $84,000 in lost aid on top of the $1,100,000 that was already lost. Maria Ehresman reported that Garlock is coming in to donate school supplies, the Lifeskills program will be conducted with sixth grade students and the Middle School and High School will be getting additional services for at-risk youth through a Wayne County grant.

Board Committee Reports included an update on the PTSA meeting. This was followed by the Members of the Elementary School Building Planning Team who presented building Action
Plans for the 2010-2011 School Year. Anne Ressler, Andrew Donovan, Jodie Barnes, Christie Graves, Stacey Newmyer, Angela DeFisher, Barb Tomeno, Carole Picha and Nancy Barton presented the updated action plans that include the following goals:

1. By the conclusion of the 2010-2011 school year, grade level groups K-4 will decrease the amount of at-risk students in mathematics (students scoring 1 or 2) as evidenced by performance on multiple measures (performance on state and local assessments, progress monitoring benchmarks, and failure rates).

2. By the conclusion of the 2010-2011 school year, grade level groups K-4 will decrease the amount of at-risk students in English Language Arts (students scoring 1 or 2) as evidenced by performance on multiple measures (performance on state and local assessments, progress monitoring benchmarks, and failure rates).

3. By the conclusion of the 2010-2011 school year, there will be an increase in student attendance, academic performance sustaining a positive school climate based on the importance of teaching to the whole child as measured by student surveys, discipline review and attendance data.

The Board of Education approved case summaries and reviewed the Treasurer’s Report. Under the Consent Agenda, the Board approved the appointments of several substitutes, volunteers, supervisors for fall season sports and student mentors. They also approved the appointment of Ian Thomas as a technology teaching assistant.

Under New Business, the Board approved the Budget Transfers for the 2010-2011 School Year, the BOCES Cooperative Bidding Resolution and the Resolution to expend funds from the Repair Reserve Fund for Emergency Repairs to the Elementary School Building. The Board also discussed a chapter of Ruby Payne’s book, A Framework for Understanding Poverty, and discussed coverage for the Snack Shack at Homecoming Weekend, October 1, 2010.