The September 23, 2009 meeting of the Williamson Central School District Board of Education opened with a public hearing regarding the resolution to approve the expenditure of reserve funds to repair the Middle School columns and windows. With the opening of the regular meeting, Richard Jordan was appointed to fill the vacant Board of Education seat.

During Announcements, Superintendent Ehresman announced that she has a Sunday building use form and the Board requested more information about the starting time. Michael Collins presented a Perfect Attendance Award to Kevin O’Dell.

Under Reports from District Administrators, Anne Ressler highlighted the elementary technology committee members who are providing in-service for other teachers in the building and she recognized their leadership in the building. Ellen Saxby commented about Kevin O’Dell’s perfect attendance and how it benefits everyone in the district, she also commented that MAP testing started for the year. She highlighted Diane Osborn for her active French lesson that included jumping rope and counting in French and Larissa Juliano the newly hired Library Media Specialist for how engaging and enthusiastic she is. John Fulmer reported that eighth grade students participated in team building last Friday. He highlighted Kevin Cavanagh and Ian Thomas for their co-teaching of Science and their active engagement of the students. Doug Lauf commented that Keith Hawkins presentation was well-received, Open House is September 24 and Old English W awards are October 2. He recognized Michael Rhoda, Ellen Shaw, Kevin Delehanty, Jodi Prideaux and Miranda Foss for helping with MAP testing. He also commented that Brendan Noon discussed that it will be difficult to do a velocity lesson with only one floor in the building, but he has many great activities planned for students. Wanda Miller commented on how well the special education teachers in the district address the needs of students who are new to the district. She commented that Kathy Seyna has asked to be a parent representative again and she thanked her for the tremendous amount of time. Gary Barno commented briefly on State Education Department reporting for the stimulus funds. Superintendent Ehresman reported that UPK enrollment is at 45 students and she recognized Jamie Sonneville for her hard work in establishing a messaging system for student homework if we have to close due to illness. Williamson is the only district presently that has established such an extensive process, according to Connect Ed.

Board Committee Reports included updates on the PTSA and Curriculum Council meetings. Lori Miller, Jessica Craft, Barb Tomeno, Anne Ressler, Ellen Saxby and Wendy Havens presented an overview of the Response to Intervention process that will be used throughout the district this year. This was followed by the Elementary Building Planning Team presentation during which they reviewed their plans for the current school year. Christie Graves, Emily Hancock, Stacey Newmyer, Nancy Barton, Rachel Young, Andrew Donovan, Tracy (OVER)
Schoonerman and Anne Ressler presented the elementary Building Planning Team action plans that include the following goals:

1. By the conclusion of the 2009-10 school year, grade level groups 1-4 will increase or maintain their math proficiency as evidenced on state and local measures.
2. By the conclusion of the 2009-10 school year, grade level students K-4 will increase or maintain proficiency in ELA as evidenced by performance on state and local measures.
3. By the conclusion of the 2009-2010 school year there will be an increase in student attendance, academic performance and sustain a positive school climate based on the importance of teaching to the whole child as measured by student surveys, discipline review, and attendance data. (wellness, Kickstart, musical, birthday treats, stress reduction, test anxiety, parent involvement)

The team reviewed the specific steps that will be taken in order to achieve these goals.

The Board of Education approved two CSE case summaries and then, under the Consent Agenda, the Board accepted the resignation/retirement of Betty Stevenson, Cleaner, High School and the resignation of Gerald Bullock, Full-Time Bus Driver. They also approved several substitutes and grant-funded stipends for individuals involved in the elementary Kick Start program. Under Old Business, the Board approved the second readings of two policies, Policy 6490 – Recognition and Policy 7200 – Attendance Policy.

Under New Business, the Board approved the Resolution to appropriate up to $30,000 from the Repair Reserve Fund for the purpose of Window and Column Restoration at the Williamson Middle School. They also approved a stipend for Heather Maloney to address the needs of English Language Learners at the Middle School and Kathy Seyna, as a Parent Representative to the Committee on Special Education for the 2009-2010 school year. Superintendent Ehresman presented a brief overview of the Regional High School Feasibility Study. A consultant has been hired by the eleven districts in Wayne County to evaluate opportunities to consolidate services in order to provide the best possible programs for high school students in the County. The consultant will be meeting with groups from each district to gather information. There will also be an on-line survey that will be open for the community to complete.