WHAT'S HAPPENING

CITIZENSHIP • CHARACTER • EDUCATION • WISDOM • KNOWLEDGE • SCHOLARSHIP • SERVICE • INTEGRITY

FEBRUARY 2015

High School High Honor Roll

Grade 9
Drew DiSanto
Zalya Doehring
Joseph Silipino
Emma Vos

Grade 10
Clayton Belmont
Jessica Brandt
Jeffrey Carinwell

Grade 11
Angelena Barclay
Logan DeRue

Grade 12
Abram Collier
Alexander Steurrys
Alyssa Williams

High School Improvement Roll

Grade 9
Nicholas Krochmalech
Maricruz Morales Velazquez
Joshua Scribner

Grade 10
Andrew LaPoint

Grade 11
Shana Fonda

Grade 12
Katelyn Flanders
Joseph Mohr
Isaas Verdin

7th & 8th Grade Exceptional Achievement Roll

7th Grade
Nicholas Krochmalech
Maricruz Morales Velazquez
Joshua Scribner

8th Grade
Andrew LaPoint

7th Grade Achievement Roll

Annalise Allman
Kayla Brennan
Austri Brown
Nicole Cantwell
Emma Cino

8th Grade Achievement Roll

Ryan Fernaays
Connor Garrod
Sarah Goodenough
Arthur Holcomb
David Kellock

Olivia Kern
Artana Klein
Deliah Moore
Heather Ramusdel
Riley Schmitt

Joseph Belmont
Brooke Bishop
Nash Cahoon
Kayley DeNagel
Maideline Dinehart
Ben Edwards
Adam Fisk

Marcus Grodici
Michaela Graves
Hannah Haws
Makenna Hall
Natalie Hinchman
Jason Homman
Tyler Ingham

Tim Lake
Mackenzie LeBerth
Kaiden Martinez
Tyra McCarthy
Erika Meyn
Ryan Morse
Marissa Peets

Adam Schreiber
Dustin Secor
Abigail Sheehan
Madison Weber
Martin Williams
Dylan Woodworth
High School...

As we enter the second semester, we are proud of the accomplishments of our students over the first half of the 2014-2015 school year. Students worked hard to study for midterms, and this opportunity gave them the experience of the skills, stamina, and time management that will be required of them in June. This also provides our students and teachers important data that will help guide instruction during the rest of the year.

We have 135 seats in 6 different Gemini classes, providing students with FLCC credit.

There are many athletic highlights, including school records for Miranda Thompson and Norberto Cervantes in indoor track weight throw. Many of our athletes have earned personal best times. We also have wrestling highlights, including our sectional champion Corey Cristales and several others going to state qualifying matches.

We have had another fantastic Cabaret performance by our Select Choir students and Miss Erin Bonner who is in for Jessica Witulski.

Williamson hosted the Wayne County Music Educators Solo Festival and All-County Auditions. Dennis Mowers, Abe Collier, Sam Zimmerman, Connor Allman, Beth Kuhl, Leanna Hess, Tylea-McCarthy-Walker, and Angelena Barclay will represent Williamson at All-County. Dennis and Abe will sit first chair for their sections, and Sam and Leanna will sit second chair. Kudos to Jeremy Stringer for organizing this event.

School Counselors Tracy O’Hara and Sally Schillaci have been working to bring career and college opportunities to our students through guest speakers, senior panels in English 11 classes, and a long-distance learning opportunity with Duke University’s Nursing Program.

National Honor Society New Inductees: Left to Right: Autumn Pollock, Cassie McCall, Tylea McCarthy-Walker, Alex Steurrys, Sarah Swingly, Lyndsey Yackel, Megan Dildine and Alyssa Williams
Middle School . . .

The Middle School is full of activity, opportunity and advancement. There are a variety of clubs that students are active in all year long, including: Yearbook Club; Newspaper Club; International Club; and Student Association. We also have activities throughout the year that include: Cooking Club; RC Club; Ski Club; Robotics Club; Spelling Bee; Intramurals; Masterminds; Odyssey of the Mind; and Running Club. Most of these activities are available to all Middle School students.

This winter over 55 7th and 8th graders participated in modified sports including basketball; swimming; cheerleading; and wrestling.

Other activities in the Middle School:
• Nine students participated in the oral round of the spelling bee after qualifying in the written round. Two finalists will go on to the regional competition in Geneva.
• The Learning Fair is scheduled at the end of April in the Middle School.
• 6th graders participated in “Mission to Mars” at the RMSC in November.
• Nearly 50 8th grade students in MS Travel Club went to Boston for three days in October.
• “Red Ribbon” spirit week took place in October with celebrating healthy living.
• The building wide “Olweus” anti-bullying program continues to be very successful in curbing bullying behavior.
• 8th graders will be participating in the Skills Competition at BOCES in April.
• Approximately 70 students and staff are participating in the Fuel Up Play 60 initiative promoting healthy living by eating right and engaging in 60 minutes of exercise per day.
• The production of “King and I” took place in January with over 80 students involved in the production.
• Medieval Day for 6th grade students will take place March 13th.
• Three roller skating parties have taken place for students at all grade levels.
• Middle School students participated in the Martin Luther King community celebration.

We encourage students to participate in different activities along with their academic responsibilities and stay involved in all aspects of the school environment.

Students worked hard wrapping all the gifts for the holiday shoe boxes donated to the Open Door Mission. This year 150 boxes were put together. Thank you to all who donated and for the hard work of the Open Door Mission “elves”!
Elementary School . . .

Reading is such an important part of your child’s day here at the Elementary school. Students have opportunities to read in a variety of settings, including:

- independently (a book they can read successfully without teacher support)
- at their instructional level (a book that requires teacher support in order to read – this is a time students hone and practice their reading skills)
- during an AIS (Academic Intervention Services) class with their reading teacher
- during content reading classes (math, science, social studies, etc.)
- while visiting the school library
- with a friend or reading buddy

In addition to these reading opportunities in school, students are also engaging in writing and content-related learning experiences that tie directly to their reading. Recently the Kindergarten students completed a learning unit on Farms and had a baby calf visit school!

Miss Brown’s 3rd grade class connected the real world event of the Super Bowl into their reading and writing.

You can help at home by reading with your child, sharing what you are interested in while reading, and visiting the public library or local bookstore. Read and enjoy!
High School Honor Roll

**Grade 9**
- Karlinn Adams
- Rook Williams Allen
- Autumn Resue
- Ethan Sonneville
- Kristina Stein
- Grace Caternolo
- Joseph DelPlato
- Claire Donovan
- Hannah Ferland
- Jacob Haase
- Martha Liddle
- Amber Lorah
- Autumn Miller
- Nathanael Niles
- Michelle Post
- Aaryn Schmitt
- Chantel Octaria Smith
- Anton Wendler

**Grade 10**
- Maria Aguilera Fonseca
- Joseph Allman
- Bayana Burnell
- Grace Caternolo
- Joseph DelPlato
- Claire Donovan
- Hannah Ferland
- Jacob Haase
- Martha Liddle
- Amber Lorah
- Autumn Miller
- Nathanael Niles
- Michelle Post
- Aaryn Schmitt
- Tylea McCarthy-Walker
- Rebecca Moran
- Emelia Sonneville
- Brianna Wilson

**Grade 11**
- Jacqueline Aguilera Fonseca
- Serena Doyon
- Andrew Fitzgerald
- Haley Haws
- Leanna Hess
- Cassie McCall
- Tylea McCarthy-Walker
- Rebecca Moran
- Emelia Sonneville
- Brianna Wilson
- Michelle Post
- Aaryn Schmitt
- Tylea McCarthy-Walker

**Grade 12**
- Maria Aguilera Fonseca
- Joseph Allman
- Bayana Burnell
- Grace Caternolo
- Joseph DelPlato
- Claire Donovan
- Hannah Ferland
- Jacob Haase
- Martha Liddle
- Amber Lorah
- Autumn Miller
- Nathanael Niles
- Michelle Post
- Aaryn Schmitt
- Tylea McCarthy-Walker
- Rebecca Moran
- Emelia Sonneville
- Brianna Wilson

High School Merit Roll

**Grade 9**
- Anthony Acosta-Seadeek
- Beau Burlee
- Avery Carlson
- Dennis Cooney
- Joseph Devendorf
- Elliott Froelicher
- Khayeria Hall
- Tyler Jones
- Samantha Kaler
- Anna Lalone
- Taylor Lang
- Jacob LaPlant
- Michelle Miller
- Rachel Miller
- Alondra Morales Velazquez
- Maricruz Morales Velazquez
- Angelique Nacci
- Taylor Nuesse
- Annielse Reuter
- Lucas Rochevot
- Connor Allman
- Westley Burlee
- Abigail Fox
- Avlia Ginther
- John Grell
- Sarah Haak
- Hannah Henderson
- Daniel Hodgson
- Gary Immoseete
- Adriannah Klejment
- Julie Kommer
- Cameron LaBarr
- Benjamin Ledain
- Cole Masche
- Zachary Reid
- Lindsey Sharp
- Lauren Smith
- Adriana Tingue
- Emilee VanDemortel
- Ana Vargas

**Grade 10**
- Connor Allman
- Westley Burlee
- Abigail Fox
- Avlia Ginther
- John Grell
- Sarah Haak
- Hannah Henderson
- Alondra Morales Velazquez
- Maricruz Morales Velazquez
- Angelique Nacci
- Taylor Nuesse
- Annielse Reuter
- Lucas Rochevot
- Chantel Octaria Smith
- Anton Wendler
- Rebecca Moran
- Emelia Sonneville
- Brianna Wilson

**Grade 11**
- Sean Campbell
- Benjamin Dodge
- Leaha Eidman
- Shania Fonda
- Nicholas Hordin
- Malik Jones
- Amber Raymer
- Emilee VanDemortel
- Ana Vargas

**Grade 12**
- Zachary Curran
- Elizabeth DeFisher
- Jesus Flores
- Zackary Guerra
- Felecia Jones
- Morgan Manktelow
- Jennifer Meyn
- Liam Miller
- Spencer Smith
- Madison Thomson

5th and 6th Grade Outstanding Work Habits

**5th Grade**
- Emelia Adams
- Andrea Aguilera
- Jennifer Aguilera-Fonseca
- Lizabeth Aguilera-Rangel
- Gryphon Akridge-Phillips
- Hazel Arteaga-Martinez
- Morgan Baumgartner
- Dylan Begy
- Joseph Bissell-Young
- Mackenzie Booser
- Alan Bouwens
- Jeffrey Brackman
- Sierra Brown
- Ian Buckles
- Brooke Byron
- Cole Campbell
- Jayden Chiccino
- Sam Collier
- Dylan Colunio
- Morgan Comstock
- Myla Coon
- Justin Czebiniak
- Jonathan Davies
- Thomas DeFisher
- Tessa Englerth
- Olivia Flynn
- Avery Fonda
- Shawn Francis
- Zackorey Frost
- Isaac Gasparri
- Tori Goodness
- LaTrell Green
- Devon Harrison
- Tucker Hilgeger
- Andrea Hurtado-Trejo
- Matthew Jackson
- James Jones
- Madison Jones
- Chloe Jordan
- Paige Jordan
- Emily Kozak
- Daniel Kuhl
- Riaghlee Lagoner
- Dylan Lang
- Jordyn Lavoie
- Shelby Lessord
- Cameron Liedmann
- Reagan Mangos
- Peter Matteson
- Shaylyn Miller
- Tyler Morse
- Cayleigh Newby
- Jocelyn Pyron
- Aiden Richmond
- Alexis Rodriguez
- Christian Rojo
- Liat Rothflus
- Emma Sclieppi
- Nadia Serrano
- Torin Sheahan
- Kaitlyn Smith
- William Snow
- Caeleb Suwyn
- Faylinn Tousey
- Yaralize Valentijn-Casillas
- Jillian VanLare
- Autumn Warney
- Johnathan Wieser
- Taylor Williams
- Grace Wren
- Jackson Wren
- Kameron Young
- Christina Zimmerman

**6th Grade**
- Annie Alexander
- Daeshaun Alexander
- Erma Beckwith
- Hope Beckwith
- Thomas Beebe
- Andrew Brandt
- Brooklynn Brothers
- Brieanna Burggraaff
- Patsy Catalano
- Elizabeth Collier
- Claire Consadine
- Nicholas Cook
- Johanna Cottrell
- Skyler Davis
- Connor DeNagel
- Jacob Dinehart
- Kennedie Dunbar
- Jayelle Dunning
- Danial Earlantd
- Eleanor Erwin
- Gavin Fernaays
- Brianna Ferreri
- Mackenzie Fox
- Julianna Giudici
- Zachary Haase
- Gabriella Hamel
- Dylan Hawn
- Camden Haws
- Sarah Hellmann
- Maeve Hoody
- Scott Klinkman
- Sophia Konstantinou

**Grade 14**
- James Foisia
- Aliandra Kunz
- Ryan LaBarr
- Abigail Lamark
- Autumn Lee
- Ryleigh Leeson
- Michael Main
- Thomas Moran
- Cade Newby
- Ethan Nisbet
- Aryn Notovitz
- Nadia Reed
- Michael Rojo
- Anna Russell
- Austin Sturrry
- Cameron Stringer
- Cadence Suwyn
- Laurel Taft
- Madison Tarquinio
- Arabella Tousey
- Ryan Trombly
- Josiah Tuminelli
- Grace Weber
- Lydia Wyble
Go Red For Women Campaign

The entire Williamson Central School District, including staff and students raised a total of $1,315 for the American Heart Association’s “Go Red for Women” Campaign. Paper hearts were filled out with names of people we know that had or are affected by heart disease, and then these hearts were added to the large heart in each building. The goal was to “fill the heart” with love and we did!
Message from the Superintendent . . .

Understanding GEA

Each year the New York State Government passes a budget that allocates money for schools to operate. The amount of money each district gets from this allocation is based on complicated formulas based primarily on each district’s wealth. Basically, wealthier districts are able to generate more revenue from local property taxes than districts with less wealth. Therefore, wealthier districts are less dependent on state aid than districts with less wealth. For example, a large suburban district may generate 80% of its revenue from property taxes and depend on the state for the other 20%. Here in Williamson we generate approximately 50% of our revenue from property taxes and depend on the state to provide us with the other 50%.

The state has been reducing what we are entitled to for the past five years through what they call “Gap Elimination Adjustment” or GEA. Through the GEA the Williamson Central Schools have lost over $7 million dollars in revenue. This has resulted in the loss of over 40 jobs. This year we stand to lose another million dollars forcing further cuts to staff and programs.

The inequities are astounding. Larger more affluent districts suffer less than small rural districts like us. The math is fairly simple, if the GEA is going to reduce state aid by 10% that is 10% of half of our revenue while a larger suburban district (from the example above) would lose 10% from only one fifth of their revenue. Clearly, our rural school students are more adversely affected than their more affluent suburban neighbors. The GEA needs to be eliminated and schools need to be appropriately funded so we can provide an equally rich education for all students in New York State.

Over 50 legislators from both parties and from both the House and Assembly have signed onto bills that would eliminate this crippling process. I would like to publicly thank our legislators for their support and advocacy. To learn more, go to our school web site and view the video under “Advocating for Our Schools” then click on the PTSA advocacy link to help support our legislators in their efforts to equitably fund our schools.

WILLIAMSON CENTRAL SCHOOLS
History of Aid Lost to Gap Elimination Adjustment (GEA)
Total of $7,098,301
Message from the BOE President...

“No other investment yields as great a return as the investment in education. An educated workforce is the foundation of every community and the future of every economy.”

— Brad Henry, former governor of Oklahoma

When we think about investment, we usually think in financial terms. As we all know, school districts across the state are facing unprecedented economic challenges. We are working with our elected officials to restore funding and establish sustainable policies that will ensure our children will have access to quality education now and in the future. But there are other forms of investment that bring a huge return. Consider the investment of time, talent and treasure that our teachers, staff, administrators and volunteers put forth every day to reinforce our mission to “do what’s right for children.” By their care, love and support families and friends invest in each child’s well-being so that they can grow to reach their full potential. As a community, we choose to make an investment in education that goes far beyond the financial statements and budget presentations. We understand that education is the key that unlocks the door of opportunity not only for our children but the entire community as well. On behalf of the school board, I want to thank everyone for investing in our schools. Your support makes all the difference in the world. Please stay informed, engaged and in touch.

Sincerely,

Michael L. Collins, President
Board of Education