**WHAT'S HAPPENING**

**February 2016**

**Citizenship • Character • Education • Wisdom • Knowledge • Scholarship • Service • Integrity**

---

### High School High Honor Roll

- **Grade 9**
  - Joshua Bailey
  - Joseph Belmont
  - Aubree Brothers
  - Gavin Buesler
  - Hunter Byron
  - Justin Eaton
  - Maxwell Farrington
  - Adam Fisk
  - Autumn Frost
  - Hannah Haws
  - Makenna Hill
  - Tyler Ingham
  - George Konstantinou
  - Irini Konstantinou
  - Mackenzie Mangos
  - Andrew Niles
  - Trayton Schmeelk
  - Adam Robert Schreiber
  - Abigail Sheahan
  - Olivia Tunley
  - James Williams

- **Grade 10**
  - Drew DiSanto

- **Grade 11**
  - Clayton Belmont
  - Jessica Brandt
  - Jeffrey Canwell

- **Grade 12**
  - Bailey DiSanto
  - Claire Donavan
  - Hannah Feerland
  - Sharayah Fisher
  - Jacob Haase
  - Matthew Kuhl
  - Nathaniel Niles
  - Nathaniel Palmer
  - Olivia Tunley
  - James Williams

---

### 7th Grade Achievement Roll

- Morganne Akridge-Phillips
- Jayelle Dunning
- Alandra Kunz
- Brianna Shanley
- Amanda Barber
- Emily Conrow
- Josiah McIntosh
- Noah Sikepp

- Evan Blankenberg
- Andrew Brandt
- Patsy Catalano
- Johanna Cottrell
- Nick Cook
- Connor DeNagel
- Kenedie Dunbar
- Jayelle Dunning
- Gavin Fernaays
- Mackenzie Fox
- Julianne Guidici
- Zachary Haise
- Gabriella Hamel
- Nicole Hillyard
- Scott Klunkman
- Autumn Lee
- Abigail Lamarik
- Michael Main
- Makayla Motter
- Cadie Newby
- Aryn Notovitz
- Lauren Pollock
- Autumn Pollock
- Emily Conrow
- Ryan Fernaays
- Sarah Goodenough
- Arthur Holcomb
- Olivia Kern
- Max Lalone

---

### 8th Grade Achievement Roll

- Morganne Akridge-Phillips
- Jayelle Dunning
- Alandra Kunz
- Brianna Shanley
- Amanda Barber
- Emily Conrow
- Josiah McIntosh
- Noah Sikepp

- Evan Blankenberg
- Andrew Brandt
- Patsy Catalano
- Johanna Cottrell
- Nick Cook
- Connor DeNagel
- Kenedie Dunbar
- Jayelle Dunning
- Gavin Fernaays
- Mackenzie Fox
- Julianne Guidici
- Zachary Haise
- Gabriella Hamel
- Nicole Hillyard
- Scott Klunkman
- Autumn Lee
- Abigail Lamarik
- Michael Main
- Makayla Motter
- Cadie Newby
- Aryn Notovitz
- Lauren Pollock
- Autumn Pollock
- Emily Conrow
- Ryan Fernaays
- Sarah Goodenough
- Arthur Holcomb
- Olivia Kern
- Max Lalone

---

### 7th & 8th Grade Exceptional Achievement Roll

- Morganne Akridge-Phillips
- Jayelle Dunning
- Alandra Kunz
- Brianna Shanley
- Amanda Barber
- Emily Conrow
- Josiah McIntosh
- Noah Sikepp

- Evan Blankenberg
- Andrew Brandt
- Patsy Catalano
- Johanna Cottrell
- Nick Cook
- Connor DeNagel
- Kenedie Dunbar
- Jayelle Dunning
- Gavin Fernaays
- Mackenzie Fox
- Julianne Guidici
- Zachary Haise
- Gabriella Hamel
- Nicole Hillyard
- Scott Klunkman
- Autumn Lee
- Abigail Lamarik
- Michael Main
- Makayla Motter
- Cadie Newby
- Aryn Notovitz
- Lauren Pollock
- Autumn Pollock
- Emily Conrow
- Ryan Fernaays
- Sarah Goodenough
- Arthur Holcomb
- Olivia Kern
- Max Lalone

---

### High School Improvement Roll

- **Grade 9**
  - Morganne Akridge-Phillips
  - Morganne Akridge-Phillips
  - Morganne Akridge-Phillips
  - Morganne Akridge-Phillips

- **Grade 10**
  - Kevin Zuniga
  - Kevin Zuniga
  - Kevin Zuniga
  - Kevin Zuniga

- **Grade 11**
  - Adriannah Klejment
  - Samantha Neidk
  - Tricia Mitchell
  - Adriannah Klejment

- **7th Grade**
  - Sarah Hellmann
  - Sofia Konstantino
  - Austin Steurrys
  - Madison Tarquinio
  - Grace Weber
  - Lyda Wyble

- **8th Grade**
  - Annalise Allman
  - Cora Blunkin
  - Alyssa Bond
  - Madeline Borlce
  - Evelyn Fonda
  - Contor Garrod
  - David Kellock

---

### High School Sustained Improvement Roll

- **Grade 9**
  - Morganne Akridge-Phillips
  - Morganne Akridge-Phillips
  - Morganne Akridge-Phillips
  - Morganne Akridge-Phillips

- **Grade 10**
  - Kevin Zuniga
  - Kevin Zuniga
  - Kevin Zuniga
  - Kevin Zuniga

- **Grade 11**
  - Adriannah Klejment
  - Samantha Neidk
  - Tricia Mitchell
  - Adriannah Klejment

- **7th Grade**
  - Morganne Akridge-Phillips
  - Morganne Akridge-Phillips
  - Morganne Akridge-Phillips
  - Morganne Akridge-Phillips

- **8th Grade**
  - Morganne Akridge-Phillips
  - Morganne Akridge-Phillips
  - Morganne Akridge-Phillips
  - Morganne Akridge-Phillips

---

**Images:**

1. Group photo of students.
2. Group photo of students.
4. Group photo of students.
High School . . .

The winter season has brought us many acknowledgements!

152 of our students earned honors for Merit, Honor, High Honor, and Improvement Rolls for the second marking period.

At press time we are sending 6 wrestlers to the State qualifiers. We have new school records in the Weight Throw courtesy of Norberto Cervantes, who set a Williamson and Wayne Finger Lakes record in the Weight Throw of 53’10” and Sierra Taylor set a new school record in the Weight Throw of 22’1”. Our swimmers are also setting pool records and competing in sectionals as of this issue.

The following students have earned Quarterly Quality Student Awards at the Wayne Technical and Career Center (WTCC) in the second quarter: Joseph DePlato, Electrical Trades; Claire Donovan, Health Dimensions; Serena Doyon, New Vision Medical Careers; Noah Ferrante, Auto Body Repair; Amber Raymer, New Vision Medical Careers; Braedon Spence, Culinary Arts. They have been recognized by their instructors for demonstrating exceptional skills in the following areas: Communication Skills; Personal and Workplace Behaviors; Quality Process Skills; and Specific Technical and Career Skills.

Additionally, the following students have achieved a 90 or higher average in their technical program for the second marking period: Westley Burlee, Electrical Trades; Norberto Cervantes, Criminal Justice; Claire Donovan, Health Dimensions; Serena Doyon, New Vision Medical Careers; Sarah Haak, Health Dimensions; Amber Lorah, Cosmetology; Amber Raymer, New Vision Medical Careers; Emelia Sonneville, New Vision Medical Careers.

Our staff are implementing new instructional strategies through the use of Google Classroom, eDoctrina and other technology tools. Seniors in English 12 are completing our first ever Senior Project, blending writing and research skills with an area of their passion. Students at all grade levels are beginning career exposure through the work of our Pathways Counselor Tracy O’Hara. We have numerous students participating in internships and job shadows to learn more about fields of interest.

National Honor Society New Inductees: Left to Right: Claire Donovan, Chantel Smith, Amber Raymer, Bailey DiSanto, Angelena Barclay, Matthew Kuhl, Jessica Brandt, Rebecca Moran, Hannah Ferland, Sharayah Fisher
Middle School . . .

The Middle School is full of activity, opportunity and advancement beyond the classroom.

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; Ski Club; Robotics Club; Spelling Bee; Intramurals; Coding Club; Chess Club; Masterminds; Odyssey of the Mind; and Running Club. Many of these activities are available to all Middle School students.

This winter over 45 7th and 8th graders participated in modified sports that include basketball; swimming; cheerleading; and wrestling.

Other activities in the Middle School:
- Students participated in the oral round of the Spelling Bee after qualifying in the written round. Two finalists will go onto the regional competition in Geneva.
- The Learning Fair is again scheduled for the end of April.
- 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.
- The MS has begun holding monthly “PAWSit forums” where all students begin their day in the auditorium together. We focus on the MS being a true community built on personal and social responsibility.
- 8th graders will be participating in the Skills Competition at BOCES in March.
- Approximately 50 students and staff are participating in the Fuel Up Play 60 Initiative promoting healthy living by eating right and 60 minutes of exercise per day.
- 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 that took place in Newark.
- 6th graders participated in positive social skills lessons with an instructor from Delphi.
- All students received hearts on their lockers for Valentine’s Day courtesy of MS Student Association.
- International Club is planning an International Fair in April.
- The MS is collecting Box Tops for Education, with the 5th graders winning the first competition between classes.

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

We are all about learning here at the elementary school! Learning takes different shapes and forms throughout the day; some examples include:

• Our students are in the gym learning how to play a new game with their classmates.
• You can also see our students in class reading and learning about people and places around the world through their reading.
• 3rd graders are learning about the different species of frogs in both their classroom and at the Rochester Museum and Science Center while on a field trip.
• The student safety patrol (4th graders) are learning what it is like to have a role of leadership and responsibility in the building (they are doing a great job in this role!).
• Soon our K-4 student population will learn what it is like to be a writer and an author when James Howe visits our school on March 11th and shares his learning path as well as his successes!

Take a peek at these pictures of our Williamson Elementary students and their learning!

Ellen Saxby
Elementary School Principal

Thank you for your continued support!
High School Honor Roll

Grade 9
Leonardo Ceron
Kayley DeNagel
Madeline Dinehart
Benjamin Edwards
Maecsa Giudici
Mackenzie LeBerth
Tyia McCarthy
Erika Meyn
Ryan Morse
Madison Weber

Grade 10
Avery Carlson
Cameron Gregory
Rachel Miller
Angelique Nacci
Autumn Ressue
Kristina Stein
Emma Vos

Grade 11
Joseph Allman
Grace Caternolo
Abram Collier
Martha Liddie
Amber Lorah
Chantel Octaria Smith

Grade 12
Jacqueline Aguilera Fonseca
Sarena Buys
Sean Campbell
Benjamin Dodge
Andrew Fitzgerald
Shania Fonda
Malik Jones
Cassie McCall
Owen Parshall
Ashley Raymer

High School Merit Roll

Grade 9
Brooke Bishop
Kayli Burggraaff
Justina Adair Eodice
Eryn Grill
Logan Hamm
Jason Homman
Kaden Martinez
Collin McCall
Marissa Peets
Mynor Perez Mendez
Samuel Jacob Rochevot
Dara Storms
Sierra Taylor

Grade 10
Martin Williams
Dylan Woodworth
Alexa Jordan
Samantha Kaler
Anna Lalone
Jacob LaPlant
Brian Noger
Taylor Nuesse
Nicholas Piazza
Annaliese Reuter
Lucas Daniel Rochevot
Joseph Silipino
Ethan Sonneville

Grade 11
Maria Isabel Aguilera Fonseca
Westley Burlee
Joseph DelPlato
John Grell
Sarah Haak
Hannah Henderson
Gary Immesoete
Adriannah Klejment
Cole Masce
Autumn Miller
Michelle Post
Aaryn Schmitt

Grade 12
Lauren Patricia Smith
Emilee VanDemortel
Jacob Bailey
Haley Haws
Jacob Kommer
Nathanael Lalone
Bianna McCull
Emma Mclymond
Thomas Page
Mason Prater
Austin Whitcomb

5th and 6th Grade Outstanding Work Habits

5th Grade
Alan Aguilera-Rangel
Adrianna Alexander
Sam Belmont
Leta Bernhardt
Logan Bond
Andrew Bradford
Collin Brennan
Evonne Buwalda
Joelle Cobbs
Ross Consadine
Matthew DeFisher
Luke Dinehart
Audrey Erwin
Marshall Faniel
Kayleigh Genge
Blake Giglio
Alexa Governor
Aaron Jones
Natalie Kern
Alayna Kiesinger
Ella Markko
Adrian Martinez
Aiden Mateo

6th Grade
John Niles
Michael Ortiz
Raymond Otero
Morgan Peets
Vincent Pilato
Kyle Scorttino
Lilianna Sharp
Allyson Skinner
Moira Smith
Bailey Stringer
Olivia Tarquinio
Sebastian Tarquinio
Evon Trombley
Tania Vargas
Logan Venti
Joseph Weinschreider
Kaitlin Welsher
Marcela Zavala

Gryphon Akridge-Phillips
Hazel Arteaga-Martinez
Joshua Bardin
Morgan Baumgartner
Dylan Begy
Evon Bishop
Joseph Bissell-Young
Mackenzie Booser
Alon Bouwens
Jeffrey Brackman
Sierra Brown
Ian Buckles
Brooke Byron
Cole Campbell
Jayden Chiccino
Vincent Chiccino
Sam Collier
Dylan Columio
Morgan Comstock
Myla Coon
Justin Czepinka
Jonathan Davies
Thomas DeFisher
Tessa Engleth

Olive Flynn
Avery Fonda
Shawn Francis
Zack Frost
Isaac Gasparri
Diego Gonzalez DeVore
Tori Goodness
LaTrell Green
Devon Harrison
Damen Hawn
Troy Ingham
Matthew Jackson
James Jones
Chloe Jordan
Paige Jordan
Nick Katta
Emily Kozak
Daniel Kuhl
Raighlee Lagoner
Jesse LaPlant
Jordyn Lavoie
Shelby Lessord
Cameron Leidmann
Connor Manahan

Reagan Mangos
Jaxxen Markko
Peter Matteson
Jennifer Mendoza Nava
Shaylyn Miller
Cayleigh Newby
Graham Penta
Aiden Richmond
Alexis Rodriguez
Liam Rothfuss
Emma Grace Sclieppi
Nadia Serrano
Torin Sheehan
William Snow
Caeleb Suwyn
Faylinn Tousey
Jillian VanLare
Autumn Warney
Johnathan Wieser
Emily Williams
Taylor Williams
Grace Wren
Jackson Wren
Christina Zimmerman
Changes to NYS Testing Program = Good for Kids!

In response to feedback from school districts, school leaders and parents, the New York State Education Department has changed several aspects of the state testing program. These changes will alleviate many of the concerns stakeholders have expressed in regards to past testing practices. Here is a list of the most significant changes for this school year:

**Questar has replaced Pearson as the state’s assessment services provider**
Questar Assessment, Inc. brings extensive experience with assessment in New York State to the Grades 3-8 testing program.

**There will be greater involvement of educators in the test development process**
The increased involvement of educators in the review of questions and final test forms will improve the quality of the Grades 3-8 ELA and Mathematics Tests. There will be a focus to more closely measure what is taught in classrooms.

**There will be a decrease in the number of test questions**
One of the most consistent recommendations made to NYSED was to reduce the length of the tests. Based on this feedback, NYSED has decreased the number of test questions on both the 2016 Grades 3-8 ELA and Mathematics tests.

**The assessments will be untimed**
We will be transitioning to an untimed testing model in order to allow students the ability to work at their own pace and do their best work. This will also help to alleviate concerns about test completion.

**Assessment results will not impact teacher evaluation**
The New York State Education Department had placed a four year moratorium on using test scores to inform teacher evaluation.

For more information and greater detail about the exciting changes coming to the New York State 3-8 Mathematics and ELA Testing Program, please visit the New York State Education Department’s website at [NYSED.gov](http://NYSED.gov) and click on the assessment link. We are asking parents and guardians to remember that these assessments do provide teachers with valuable information about student learning and program effectiveness. Our district must ensure a 95% participation rate on these assessments in order to qualify for federal funding.

---

**Williamson Community Assessment Forum**

Please join us on

**March 10th from 7:00 – 8:00**

in the MS Auditorium

We will share the latest updates and answer questions you may have.
Message from the Superintendent . . .

Why High Participation Rates Helps Williamson Schools

As we head toward spring and the administration of the grades 3-8 state assessments in English Language Arts and Mathematics, we want to thank our teachers, parents and students for all of their hard work towards meeting the New York State Standards. Last year we had a large number of students “opt-out” of taking the tests. Parents, teachers, and other groups communicated their concerns with the assessments and the State has made changes accordingly. These changes are outlined on a separate page of this issue. The purpose of this article is to help you understand why the assessments are important to us. By having your child take the assessments, you are:

1. **Allowing our students to demonstrate what they know and are able to do** as compared with the expectations set by the state standards. The results help us analyze the effectiveness of our curriculum. Further, these assessments allow us to objectively compare the progress of our students with students in other schools and districts.

2. **Supporting the hard work of our teachers and administrators** as they utilize the entire instructional cycle – standards, curriculum, instruction, assessments, analysis of results, and professional learning – to continuously improve the opportunities provided to our students.

3. **Preparing our kids for future standards-based instruction and assessments** such as Regents Exams and the SAT. When students take the 3-8 assessments, they are “practicing” in a sense for future assessments, when the stakes are higher. It is reassuring to note that on the 3-8 assessments, students do not pass or fail nor do they fail content area courses or get held back in their current grade based on their assessment results. Instead, they are deemed to have met proficiency or not – and then future guidance or support services are provided accordingly. These 3-8 assessments also build the stamina and “grit’ students will need for future exams.

4. **Providing the district with critical information** about our students, our professional learning, and the investments that we make in our educational system. It is worth noting that the assessments are comprehensive for a reason: to be fair to our students. For an assessment to be “fair,” it must provide multiple opportunities for students to demonstrate proficiency against a given question/standard. This design makes the amount of time challenging, but is one of the key features in establishing the validity of the assessment. The State’s efforts to shorten the tests and not restrict time will be a great help.

We want you to know that we greatly appreciate your child’s participation in the assessments here in Williamson Central Schools. Simply put, doing so helps us see how our students are meeting expectations; understand specific areas in which our students are successful; and identify specific areas in which our students struggle so that we can best focus our efforts to prepare them to be ready for the future.
Message from the BOE President...

“The foundation of every state is the education of its youth.”
– Diogenes, Greek philosopher 412-323 BC

Our district’s perennial budget process is in full swing. As outlined in the budget presentation, this year we are cautiously optimistic that instead of cutting personnel and programs, we can actually reinstate and even enhance our efforts to provide our students with a competitive and relevant education. It’s good news. While it is a welcome relief from recent years, we are not complacent in thinking that adequate education funding will become a driving force for change in Albany. We will continue to push for fair and equitable funding as well as promised GEA reimbursement. The future of our children and our community is too important to be left to chance or political expediency. Each member of the WCS team contributes to our culture of doing what’s right for children through dedication and a commitment to excellence every day. Community support ensures that we are preparing our children for the future. Please stay informed, engaged and in touch. Let us know if you have any questions. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Michael L. Collins, President
Board of Education

SMART Schools Bond Preliminary Plan is posted on the District website. Please take a minute to review and submit your suggestions.