



# September 2018

## Williamson Elementary School

Paws for the News from Miss Saxby ~  
Williamson Elementary Principal



Welcome to the 2018-2019 school year! We are very excited to welcome approximately 420 students to the elementary school on our first day, which is Tuesday September 4<sup>th</sup>. We will be welcoming new students as well as new staff.

Mrs. Jessica Chapman - Kindergarten Teacher

Mrs. Lucia Copeland - Building Substitute Teacher

Miss Meghan Phillips - 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> Grade Band

If you have any questions, comments or concerns during the school year please feel free to contact the school at any time. We want to work together, with families, to provide your child with a well-rounded educational experience. You are welcome to contact your child's teacher, the school psychologist, social worker or an administrator.

Together we will make 2018-2019 a great school year!

*Miss Ellen Saxby*

*Williamson Elementary Principal*

### **\*SOME IMPORTANT CHANGES AROUND THE BUILDING\***

- Due to multiple safety concerns there will be NO cars allowed in the bus circle from 8:30-9:00 a.m. and 3:00-3:30 p.m. If you arrive during those times, you will need to park your vehicle in one of the parking lots.
- There will be procedural changes to the afternoon pick-up room (#5) which will begin on the first day of school.
- The district parking lots have all been redone...it's been a big project, but it looks wonderful!

From Mrs. Hoody, Assistant Principal...

This year we will be using the word **PRIDE** to represent key behaviors we want all of our students to develop. Each letter represents a positive characteristic that will help our students be the best they can be!

**PRIDE** stands for:

**P** erseverance

**R** esponsibility

**I** ntegrity

**D** ignity

**E** xcellence



These are **BIG** words and **BIG** ideas for our younger students! Each month in our newsletter we will take a look at one characteristic in depth to help you discuss these ideas at home!

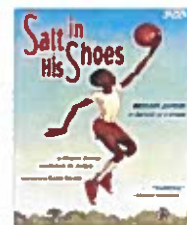
Let's explore **PERSEVERANCE**...(with a little help from [talkingtreebooks.com](http://talkingtreebooks.com))

Perseverance is the ability to work through challenges. Having perseverance means that when you are facing something difficult, you use your mind and your body to do your best.



Check out these titles for examples of **PERSEVERANCE** in literature:

- *The Most Magnificent Thing* by Ashley Spires
- *Flight School* by Lita Judge
- *Amazing Grace* by Mary Hoffman
- *Salt in His Shoes* by Deloris and Roslyn Jordan



We look forward to a busy and productive school year at the elementary school. Don't forget to follow us on Facebook at [@williamsoncentralschool](https://www.facebook.com/williamsoncentralschool), on Twitter [@WESMarauders](https://twitter.com/WESMarauders) and on Instagram at [@williamson.es](https://www.instagram.com/williamson.es). We will be showcasing many of the wonderful things your children participate in.

# Save the Date!!

Elementary School Open House - Thursday, October 4, 2018 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm

\*\* Williamson Dollars for Scholars will be holding a Hot Dog Sale during Open House \*\*

## Important Upcoming Dates

First Day!!	Sept. 4
Morning Bus Drill	Sept. 12
Gr. 4 Instrumental Lessons Start	Sept. 17
ES Picture Day	Sept. 21
Gr. 4 Roller-skating Party	Sept. 26
Gr. 4 Chorus Starts	Oct. 4
ES Open House	Oct. 4
Columbus Day (No School)	Oct. 8
Interims Home w/Student	Oct. 12
Supt. Conf. Day (No School)	Oct. 19
Community Flu Shot Clinic	Oct. 22
Gr. 4 Band Starts	Oct. 23
Gr. 3 Roller-skating Party	Oct. 24
Big Pumpkin Day	Oct. 26

## District Telephone Numbers

From time to time, you may need to contact individuals in the district to assist you. Please use the following phone numbers:

Elementary School	315-589-9668
Middle School	315-589-9665
High School	315-589-9621
District Office	315-589-9661
Bus Garage	315-589-6901
CSE Office	315-589-8308

## Goldenrod Rule

The Elementary School uses Goldenrod paper to indicate a paper that requires your response. When you see a Goldenrod paper in your child's backpack, please take time to read, sign and return it to school.

## Change of Address, Phone Number or Place of Work

Please notify the school as soon as possible if you have ANY changes in your contact information.

## Who to Contact If....

- Your child is sick or has been hurt - Mrs. Musclow, School Nurse @ 315-589-9668 option 4
- Your child is having problems on the school bus - Mr. O'Neil, Transportation Supervisor @ 315-589-6901 or Miss Saxby, Elementary Principal @ 315-589-9668
- Your child is having problems with school work - Classroom Teacher @ 315-589-9668
- Your child is having problems on the playground - Classroom Teacher @ 315-589-9668
- Your child seems unhappy (over a period of time) - Classroom Teacher or Mrs. Blaessig (School Psychologist) @ 315-589-9668

## Pick Up During the School Day

To ensure the safety of each child and to minimize disruptions in our educational program, we ask that you follow these steps when it is necessary to remove your child from school during the day:

1. Complete and return the Student Information Sheet which includes the "authorization to pick up" information. This is critical if you need someone other than a parent to pick up your child.
2. Send in a note with your child stating that you plan to pick him or her up early and the time you will arrive.
3. Check in at the Main Office and then report to the Health Office where staff will assist you in signing a 'blue slip.'

### School Visitors

We welcome visitors to our school! Please follow these procedures when visiting:

1. Park in the parking lot
2. Ring bell at the Main Entrance door
3. Proceed to the Main Office
4. Sign-in using your drivers license to receive a Visitor Pass
5. Please leave any items that you may be bringing in for your student in the Main Office to eliminate interruptions to instruction

Thank you for helping us to keep our school safe!

### Attendance Policy

Attendance in school is critical for students to achieve. Please encourage your child to attend school unless illness prevents it. It is important that students arrive **ON TIME - NO LATER THAN 8:45 AM**. Morning routines start as soon as students get off the buses.

Research has shown that students who establish poor attendance patterns at a young age have difficulty changing those patterns as they grow. The district has an attendance policy in place that includes regular letters of notification to parents of students who are excessively absent from school. If there are specific issues preventing your child from attending, please contact the Main Office or Health Office to set up an appointment to discuss the concerns.

### Bussing Large Groups of Students

Please notify the bus garage (315-589-6901) in advance if a large group of students will be riding the bus to your home so that they may plan accordingly.



### School Lunch

Breakfast and lunch are served daily in the Elementary School. All students, whether they bring or buy, eat their lunch in the cafeteria. All lunch money should be labeled with the student's name, amount of money and purpose noted. Parents may also pay online at [www.myschoolbucks.com](http://www.myschoolbucks.com). Information regarding this payment system is located on the District Website ([www.williamsoncentral.org](http://www.williamsoncentral.org)). Free and reduced price lunches are available for children whose families meet the criteria. Forms for Free and Reduced Lunches are available on the District Website.

### School Lunch Prices for this year are:

Breakfast	\$1.60
Hot Lunch	\$2.20
Ice Cream	\$1.00
Milk	\$0.50
Juice Cups	\$0.40

### Snacks

Many of our classes have a snack during the course of the school day. Students are encouraged to bring in nutritional snacks such as apples, bananas, raisins and carrots.

### Distribution of Party Invitations at School

We ask that the distribution of invitations be handled in a careful and considerate manner. Your child's teacher will have a preferred approach to this matter and will inform you in a newsletter. Please follow the teacher's suggested approach so as to avoid the damage that can result to students not invited to an event.

### Parents: Set the Example!

When entering or exiting the Elementary School during arrival or dismissal times, please use the sidewalk. Children may follow your example if you walk between buses or don't use the sidewalk. Small children cannot be seen by the bus drivers when they are close to the front of the buses. We want to teach our students safe behaviors. Thank you for setting a good example!

### SchoolMessenger

SchoolMessenger, a calling system that enables simultaneous contact to many individuals at one time, is used by the district in the event of an emergency or school closing. Please keep your phone contacts updated to ensure that you receive all important messages.



### Health Office Notes



- The best time to contact the Nurse in the Health Office is between 9:30 am and 3:00 pm.
- NYS law requires school physicals for UPK, K (if not received in UPK), 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grades and for all students new to the district. The physical must be turned in prior to the start of school. There is a 30 day grace period if not turned in at the start of school or for those who have future appointments. If your student has a physical scheduled, please contact the Health Office with the date of the appointment so that we can list it as 'in process.'
- All required vaccinations for your child's age must be up-to-date prior to the start of school or by the 14<sup>th</sup> calendar day after school starts (September 18) in order to be compliant with NYS law.
- If your child requires a medication during the school day, please obtain a doctor's order that is signed by BOTH the physician and the parent. Medications **MUST** be delivered to the Health Office by a trusted adult who must sign for the medication. Please do not allow your child to carry medicines to school.
- Physician's orders, according to NYS, are no longer needed for sunscreen in school. If your student requires sunscreen during the day, it should be provided from home and labeled with the student name. Please talk to your child's teacher about how they would like to handle sunscreen in class.

### Community Flu Shot Clinic

Monday, October 22, 2018 4:00 pm - 7:00pm @ Middle School Cafeteria - Please bring your insurance card with you!

## What's New in the Library?



"A library isn't just a library. It is a spaceship that will take you to the farthest reaches of the Universe, a time machine that will take you to the far past and the far future, a teacher that knows more than any human being, a friend that will amuse you and console you — and most of all, a gateway, to a better and happier and more useful life." Isaac Asimov

Welcome back to school! We have many fun and exciting things planned for the year ahead in the library. We have some wonderful new books that have arrived to add to our collection. These will be on display for students and staff to check out early in the year. We are so fortunate to have such a wonderful space for our WES library. As the quote above references, we strive to make our library a place that can take you places near and far, without actually having to go anywhere! In addition to weekly library lessons, students will have the opportunity to come to the library to engage in makerspace activities. Our makerspace was so well received by students and staff last year, that it will be back again this with even more opportunities for students to create, design, tinker and use their imagination!

Stay tuned for more information about some exciting new things in the library. Over the summer, our collection migrated to a new library circulation system called Follett Destiny. Follett Destiny provides users with integrated access to digital resources, collection set organization by lesson, unit or topic and access to a Destiny Discovery App. Also new this year, students and teachers will now have access to thousands of ebooks through the WFL BOCES digital books collection!

We are looking forward to seeing all the students in the library as they return to school and we can't wait to hear all about the books they've read over the summer!

Mrs. C. Sharp, Library Teacher

Mrs. A. Sharp, Library Clerk







Exciting news for the upcoming 2018-19 school year!

 **Schoolology** /skoo-luh-jee/

Starting in the **Fall of 2018**, Williamson Central Schools will begin using **Schoolology**. Schoolology is a **dashboard to your child's education**. Schoolology will make it easier than ever for parents, teachers and students to communicate easily and effectively. Schoolology will **NOT** replace Schooltool for final course grades, but will be the system we use on a day to day basis to keep track of assignments, grades and class activities.

Schoolology will enhance **connectivity and communication** across our district. With Schoolology, students can digitally submit homework assignments, review grades, receive announcements and feedback, take tests, and more. **As a parent**, you will be able to view your child's activity, assignments and grades in every class.

## IMPORTANT NOTICE:



**Until October 15**



Parents will **not be able** to access student assignments and assignment grades in Schooltool. **We will be transitioning these to the Schoolology system over the course of the first five weeks of the 2018-19 schoolyear.** After the first five weeks, parents will be able to access assignments and assignment grades in Schoolology for their children grades K-12. **In the meantime, please feel free to have your child sign into his/her Schoolology account to see assignments and grades or contact your child's teachers for specific information.**

Stay tuned for account information and user instructions! We will be sharing how-to videos, simple step by step directions and hosting parent support sessions.

**We know you will love the Schoolology experience and appreciate your patience while we transition!**

*Please feel free to contact your child's building administrators if you have any questions regarding our move to the Schoolology Learning Management System.*

# Schooltool vs Schoology

Schooltool and Schoology work together to give teachers, students and parents holistic access to instruction, assignments, grades and more! See below for the purpose and usefulness of each app!



- **View Student Schedules**
- **View Student Attendance**
- **View Student Final Course Grades and Ratings**



- **View Student's Class Assignments, Dates Due**
- **View Student's Grades on Assignments**
- **Check Status of Assignments (complete/in progress/submitted/overdue)**
- **Communicate with Teachers**
- **Real Time Access to All Current Classes**
- **Calendar of Upcoming Assignments and Due Dates**

Beginning in mid-October 2018, the district will provide all parents with Schoology login information. Stay tuned for continued communication about our fabulous new dashboard to your child's learning!



## WRC PROGRAM LISTING

2018-2012

FALL Basketball (Registration Oct)

- Travel Basketball
- Saturday Mornings

FALL American Sign Language Class

WINTER Women's Volleyball (Jan-April)

WINTER Bob DeVogt Night

WINTER Indoor Soccer (Registration Jan)

SPRING Main Street Mile (Apple Blossom)

SPRING Baseball/ Softball (May-Jun)

SUMMER Soccer (Registration Apr)

SUMMER Basketball Clinic (June)

SUMMER Track & Field Clinic (June)

SUMMER Tennis Clinic (July)

SUMMER Cross Country Clinic (Jul-Aug)

SUMMER Volleyball Clinic (August)

NEW programs are on the way!

### Community Service Opportunity

*DID YOU KNOW...*the WRC is always looking for community volunteers. If you are 14 yrs. old or older, and you are interested in: learning what goes on behind the scenes, coaching or learning coaching techniques, refereeing, would like to organize and/or run a program, please contact Bonnie Korherr, WRC Director at:

[Director@williamsonrec.org](mailto:Director@williamsonrec.org)

#### Additional Opportunities Include

- Advertising
- Fundraising
- Social Media Advertising
- Recreation Software
- Programming
- Office Management



Our *United Way* Donor Designation Agency number is 3344. Your tax-deductible donations can be made through the United Way website or through your paycheck. Thank you to all those who have already signed up to contribute to the Williamson Recreation Committee, Inc.!

## WELCOME BACK!



We hope everyone enjoyed their summer! We are excited to report that this spring/summer, 140 athletes played Baseball/ Softball, 40 joined our Marauder Basketball Clinic, 18 joined us for beginner and advanced Tennis, 10 took part in Track & Field and XC Clinic, 14 took advantage of our Volleyball Clinic and another 150 young athletes played Summer Soccer. Thank you to all in our community who continue to support our programs.

We wouldn't be here without you!

We had a total of **42 volunteers**, along with **4 JV and Varsity Coaches** join our WRC team this summer to run these incredible programs.

*Altogether, our volunteers contributed more than **5,200 hours** this spring/summer! WOW!!*

Now that summer is over and school days have begun, it is just as important to stay active and keep moving. We can help with that! Join us for basketball, Women's Volleyball, American Sign Language, and more. Come join your friends and have some fun!

### Introduction to American Sign Language



Location TBD

Cost: \$40 \* **Must Register On-line!**

Thursdays, 9/27 – 11/15

5:30PM – 7:30PM

**\*\*Adults and Youth - 4<sup>th</sup> grade & up (as of 9/1) \*\***

**\*Max 25 Participants\***

#### Focus

- Basic communication and intro to the structure of ASL as it compares to English.
- Foundation in ASL grammar including the body aspects that are part of ASL.
- Finger Spelling, counting to 100, and up to 100 communication-based signs.

QUESTIONS: Please contact Kim Kotel at

[spazyii@yahoo.com](mailto:spazyii@yahoo.com)

# Williamson Central PTSA News



Visit us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/WilliamsonCSDPTSA](https://www.facebook.com/WilliamsonCSDPTSA)  
OR click "PTSA" in the left-hand column at [www.williamsoncentral.org](http://www.williamsoncentral.org)

## 🐾🐾🐾 GET INVOLVED! 🐾🐾🐾

### NEXT MEETING

Attend our kickoff meeting for the 2018-19 school year on **Tuesday, September 11, at 6:30 p.m.** in the Williamson Elementary School library! We will review the budget and the fundraiser plans for this year.

### ROLLER SKATING

Do you have an Elementary student who loves to attend roller-skating parties?? The PTSA needs district-approved volunteers to help cover signing the students in at the beginning of the parties and ensuring a parent/guardian has signed each student out at the end. If you are able to act as a lead volunteer, especially for the 3<sup>rd</sup>-grade parties, please contact any PTSA officer (contact info below).

## 🐾🐾🐾 HOW CAN YOU HELP? 🐾🐾🐾

PTSA needs your help!! Our secretary position is vacant, and we are looking for someone who is able to fill that role to help keep our organization running and active. Without all officer positions filled plus many other helping hands throughout the year, PTSA cannot run effectively. Please consider sharing your time to fill this position and keep programming going for our students! We understand that it's a commitment you may not feel you have time to fit in, but we promise that it's manageable and is a commitment you, and especially the children, will never regret.

## 🐾🐾🐾 REACH OUT TO US! 🐾🐾🐾

Co-President: **Elissa Portela** ([elissa.c.portela@gmail.com](mailto:elissa.c.portela@gmail.com))  
Co-President: **Kristin Adams-Wangler** ([krose1003@gmail.com](mailto:krose1003@gmail.com))  
Vice-President: **Caitlin Beardsley** ([caitlinschroeder@gmail.com](mailto:caitlinschroeder@gmail.com))  
Treasurer: **Stephen Adams** ([stephen.adams913@gmail.com](mailto:stephen.adams913@gmail.com))  
Secretary: **VACANT** *\*Please consider filling the position to keep our org running!!\**

## 🐾 UPCOMING EVENTS 🐾

### September 11

PTSA meeting @ 6:30 in  
the Elementary library

### September 20

HS Open House

### September 26

4<sup>th</sup> grade roller skating  
party

### September 27

MS Open House

## 🐾 BOX TOPS 🐾

We hope that you have been clipping away this summer!

The proceeds from this



program help with  
useful purchases

for ALL of our

schools and  
students.

Don't throw away money for  
our schools! Clip, save, and  
send in your box tops!

## 🐾 MEMBERSHIP 🐾

We are collecting PTSA

membership renewals and

new memberships! Stop at a

meeting to submit your

family's membership form or

turn it in to any officer.

Becoming a member is a

very simple and quick way to

support programming for our

students! Download the

Membership Brochure form

from the PTSA page on the

district website (click "PTSA"

at [www.williamsoncentral.org](http://www.williamsoncentral.org)).

# September 2018

Williamson Elementary



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3 Labor Day Holiday	4 First Day for Students!!	5  -BPT @ 8:00	6 - 4th Grade Band Parent Mtg @ 5:00	7	8
9	10	11	12 Fall iReady Window opens  -BOE @ 6:30	13	14	15
16 Fall iReady Window (this week)	17 - Instrumental Lessons Begin	18	19	20	21 - Picture Day  	22
23 Fall iReady Window (this week)	24	25	26 - Grade 4 Roller-skating 3:30—4:45	27	28	29
30						