



HAT'S HAPPENING

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

MAY 2008

Activities In Our Buildings



Elementary students Claire and Anton participate in a science experiment.



Lobo visits with Mrs. Fox's 3rd grade class during their study of the Iditarod.



Jordan Daniels and Dylan Foreman sell baked goods for the Middle School Volunteer Club to benefit the Jordan Fund.



Mrs. Abdunnasir, Teaching Assistant, runs the "sword throw" at Medieval Day.



Mr. Stringer, High School Band Teacher and Nicole Mosely during a Band lesson.



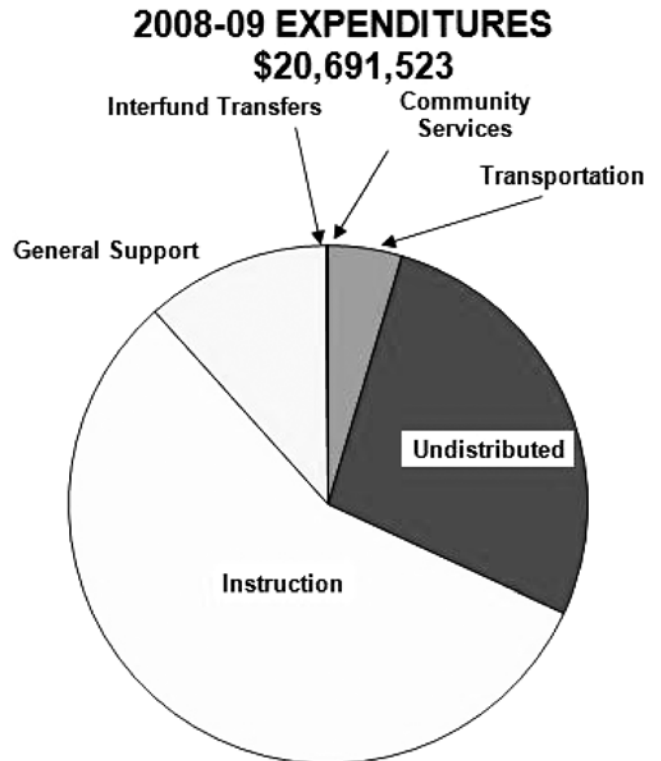
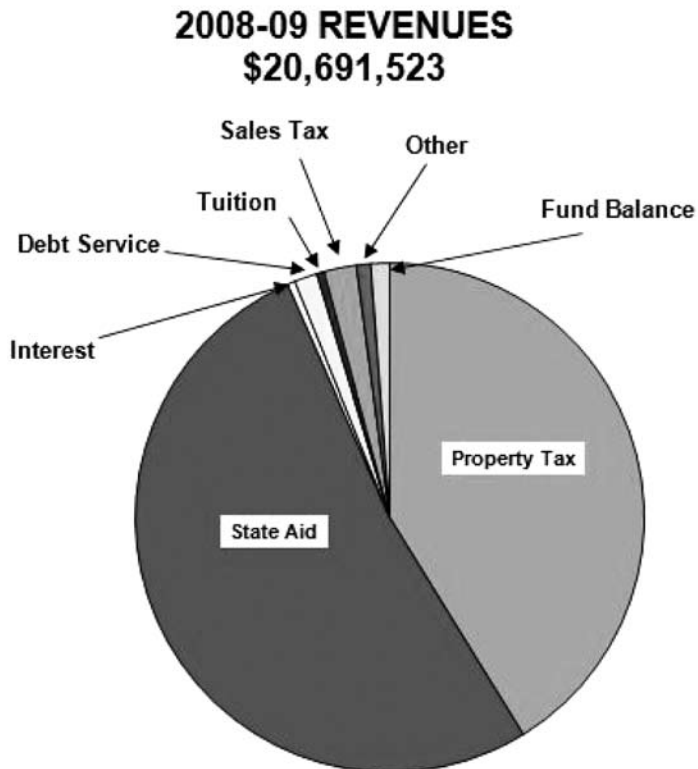
Tyler Picotte working on his ceramic project for Studio Art.

BUDGET HEARING: May 7, 2008 ~ Middle School Cafeteria - 7:00 p.m.

COMPARISON OF BUDGETS

2007-08 TO 2008-09 BY CATEGORY

CATEGORY	07/08 \$	08/09 \$	CHANGE \$
TRANSPORTATION	908,494	952,394	43,900
UNDISTRIBUTED			
BENEFITS & DEBT SERVICES	5,438,234	5,644,912	206,678
GENERAL SUPPORT			
K-12 SERVICES	2,272,150	2,383,373	111,223
INSTRUCTIONAL	11,329,799	11,684,844	355,045
COMMUNITY SERVICE	16,004	3,500	(12,504)
INTERFUND TRANSFERS	22,500	22,500	-
TOTAL BUDGET TO BUDGET	19,987,181	20,691,523	704,342



WILLIAMSON CENTRAL SCHOOL

2008-09 BUDGET

WHAT IS THE BOTTOM LINE?

	Budget Adopted for the 2007-08 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2008-09 School Year
Total Budgeted Amount	\$19,987,181	\$20,691,523
True tax rate	\$22.43	\$22.97
Total increase per thousand (True Tax Rate)		\$.54
Tax paid on \$100,000 property		\$2,297

IMPACT OF STAR PROGRAM

	BASIC STAR	ENHANCED STAR
Assessed Value of Property	100,000	100,000
STAR Exemption	(32,190)	(60,950)
Taxable Value	67,810	39,050
Estimated Taxes Without Basic STAR Exemption	2,297	2,297
Estimated Taxes Payable (Net of STAR)	1,558	897
Effective Tax Rate per \$1000 Of Full Assessed Value	15.58	8.97

PLEASE NOTE: Additional budget information can be found on our website

NEW YORK STATE SCHOOL REPORT CARD

The New York State School Report Card is designed to provide information to the public on student achievement. The information below compares Williamson students' performance on state assessments to the performance of students in public schools across the state in relation to the established New York State Standards.

The numbers listed below reflect the percentages of students who achieved scores on New York State assessments that indicate they are meeting the State Standards. The Elementary and Middle School charts reflect the performance of students in third through eighth grade who participated in the State assessments in the spring of 2007. For the high school, the numbers reflect the percentages of students who first entered grade 9 in 2002 who have achieved scores of 65-100 on the English Language Arts and Mathematics Regents Exams.

Williamson students have exceeded the performance of students in New York State Public Schools in many areas measured.

Williamson Elementary School English Language Arts

	Williamson	NYS Public Schools
Grade 3 English Language Arts	81%	67%
Grade 4 English Language Arts	84%	68%

Williamson Elementary School Mathematics

	Williamson	NYS Public Schools
Grade 3 Mathematics	96%	85%
Grade 4 Mathematics	92%	80%

Williamson Middle School English Language Arts

	Williamson	NYS Public Schools
Grade 5 English Language Arts	76%	68%
Grade 6 English Language Arts	73%	63%
Grade 7 English Language Arts	68%	58%
Grade 8 English Language Arts	60%	57%

Williamson Middle School Mathematics

	Williamson	NYS Public Schools
Grade 5 Mathematics	76%	76%
Grade 6 Mathematics	73%	71%
Grade 7 Mathematics	68%	66%
Grade 8 Mathematics	60%	59%

Williamson High School

English Language Arts
2002 Cohort

Williamson High School: 85%

Similar Schools: 81%

NYS Public Schools: 69%

Mathematics
2002 Cohort

Williamson High School: 85%

Similar Schools: 81%

NYS Public Schools: 69%

Board of Education Candidate – Karen Fitzgerald Williams

My name is Karen Fitzgerald Williams. I have been a resident of Williamson for the last 17 years. My husband Jim has lived here most of his life and is a Williamson Central School graduate. I have 3 children currently in the Williamson school system, one in each school building. The oldest of my three children will be graduating from Williamson High School this year and will be furthering his education at a local private college.

I am currently employed as the Office Manager at Mead-Maloy Agency, Inc in Newark. I have worked in the insurance industry for the last 17 years. My previous employment was a store manager in a large retail department store. I have always worked with the public and know what it means to listen to their needs and concerns. I have worked with several school districts in the area in my current employment and I have a professional understanding of the risks for both the students and the school district.

I have served on various school committees, the Asset building team at the Elementary School and more recently as Vice President of our PTSA.

I believe that we have a great school system and I am proud to see Williamson named as one of the top academic scoring schools in the area.

My personal asset to the Board of Education would be that I am a person that gets the job done. I am also the type of person that will look at every aspect and listen to any concern before forming a conclusion or resolution. If I am not familiar with a particular topic, I will research it and educate myself so that I will be able to address it in a knowledgeable and professional manner.

If I am elected to the Board of Education for the Williamson Central School District, I will listen to your concerns and portray them back to the school district. These are your children and we want them to be successful, whether their future lies here in Williamson or elsewhere. I will continue to strive for high standards in our district. I thank you for your support.



THE BALLOT

PROPOSITION 1: BUDGET **2008-09 SCHOOL YEAR**

Shall the proposed budget for the 2008-2009 school year, in the amount of \$20,691,523 be approved?

PROPOSITION 1: BUDGET **2008-09 SCHOOL YEAR**

THE TRUE TAX RATE OF \$22.97 IS \$0.54 LESS THAN LAST YEAR'S RATE.

PROPOSITION 2: Shall the Board of Education be authorized to purchase two (2) new 65 passenger buses, two (2) 28 passenger vans, and one (1) 8 passenger mini-van at an estimated maximum costs of up to \$229,000 and to authorize the purchase of same in the full amount through the issuance of debt obligations of the School District, or to reduce the amount of such obligations by authorizing up to \$100,000 from the Bus Purchase Reserve Fund, or any portion thereof as the Board of Education may determine, for the remainder as necessary for this purpose in an aggregate amount not to exceed such estimated costs, and to levy a tax in annual installments to pay the principal and interest thereon as the same shall become due.

PROPOSITION 2

THIS PROPOSITION WILL ALLOW THE DISTRICT TO MAINTAIN ITS FLEET. THERE IS NO INCREASES IN TAXES NEEDED TO PURCHASE THESE BUSES. THE MONEY NEEDED WILL COME IN THE FORM OF REVENUE FROM STATE AID AND A BUS RESERVE FUND THAT THE DISTRICT MAINTAINS.

Board of Education Candidate – Robert Wendler

Robert Wendler and his family moved to the Williamson Central School District in May of 2006 when he was transferred to the Rochester office of Excellus BlueCross BlueShield. Robert spent most of his adult life in Clinton, NY, where he was an active member of several school and community programs. He currently resides on West Main Street with his wife Erica and their three children, Bobby age 16, Anton age 9, and Evan age 6, who all attend Williamson Central Schools. Williamson's school system was a primary reason that the Wendler family selected Williamson as their home.

Robert has been with Excellus BlueCross BlueShield since 2003, and currently leads the Information Consulting team. He is responsible for partnerships with more than 500 employer groups to evaluate health care experience, assess benefit options, and identify actionable areas of improvement. Robert holds an MBA from Norwich University, a Bachelor of Science in Health Services Management from SUNY Institute of Technology, and a Certificate in Leadership Excellence from the Syracuse University Leadership Institute.



Robert is passionate about quality education and getting the most educational return for the dollars spent. And with three children in the Williamson School District, being involved in helping Williamson remain a top performing district is a very personal priority. Robert has a proven talent for thinking proactively and identifying opportunities in complex situations. He believes strongly in continual curriculum improvement, fiscal responsibility, and a commitment to providing Williamson Central School District students with every available tool and resource to ensure their success. Additionally, with his particular expertise, he can offer guidance and support on managing the ever increasing costs of healthcare that are a concern for every school district.

Robert approaches everything in his life with a positive attitude and a commitment to working together for the common good. He is dedicated to the continued development of the community and the district to prepare our children for the competitive world they will be entering. He believes that a strong school district will also aid in the economic development of the community and increase the number of families who want to make Williamson their home.

Board of Education Candidate – *Linda Moll*



“It has been a great honor and privilege to serve on the Board of Education in Williamson these past six years. The learning experience has been incredible.” Linda Moll has been serving on the Board since the fall of 2003 and has decided to run again in the May election. Linda comes to this decision after much consideration. “I believe that my contributions to the Board of Education are valuable and my six years of experience will offer added stability in this time of growth and change. We have established a good, effective team on the Board. Our school is experiencing positive momentum as we move forward with our academic initiatives. It has been an exciting time for Williamson Central.”

Linda is not new to volunteering in the Williamson School District or to the public school system. Linda has volunteered on several school and community committees as well as serving as a parent representative for both the Elementary School’s Building Planning Team (ABLE) and on the District’s Committee on Special Education (CSE) since

her oldest son, now a freshman in college, started Kindergarten. Linda has held teaching positions in the New York State Public School System as a High School English Teacher in Silver Creek, as a Special Education Teacher for Oswego County BOCES and most recently as part of the Williamson Elementary Reading Department. Linda now works as Director of Religious Education for St. Mary’s of the Lake Church in Ontario, NY.

“My range of experiences in the field of education has given me a unique and broad perspective. We are all expected to be good stewards in the community to which we belong. This requires a sharing of our time, talent and treasure. As tax paying citizens, we contribute our monetary treasure. I offer again my time and talent on behalf of the people of Williamson in the hopes that I may help to build up the true treasure of the future, our children.” Linda is married with three sons, two of whom are in the High School, and believes that one of her best qualifications to be on the Board of Education is that as communicator. “My philosophy for the success of any institution, whether family, religious, civil, business, or educational is the implementation of what I call the ‘three C’s’, communication, collaboration and community. No institution can succeed without all three of these working simultaneously. And communication comes first.”

Linda Moll hopes for your support and the opportunity to serve you again on the Williamson Central School Board of Education as your community representative for the future of the Williamson School District and its children.

Board of Education Candidate – *William Herbert*

My goal has been the same for all twenty years on the Williamson School Board. That is: To work with all of the stakeholders to facilitate continued improvement. The improvements in the District are manifold and were only possible because we built on the strengths of the past, the hard work of the administration, teachers, students and parents, and the willingness of the taxpayers in the District to continue to support the effort.

I am a retired Xerox Principal Scientist (37 years) who has always had a love for education. As an Eagle/Silver Award Boy Scout, I enjoyed teaching the younger Scouts the skills they needed to know. While serving in the United States Marine Corps, I visited schools all over the world and had the opportunity to teach my fellow Marines. I was a Scoutmaster for four years in Webster and a merit badge counselor for the Nature, Astronomy, and Chemistry merit badges. While at Xerox, I was part of the Science Consultant Program (25 years) where we prepared kits and went into schools to teach science to mostly fourth and fifth graders in the inner city. One year I visited and taught in 43 different schools. Xerox also gave me the opportunity to visit schools around the world. I also taught 17 different courses as part of the Xerox Education Group to adults.

I am a strong proponent of continued life long education. After getting my undergraduate degree at St. John Fisher, I did advanced work at RIT, U of R, Case Western, U of M and other schools. I am a qualified LIFO instructor, Selectron Plater, etc.

Awards that I received while at Xerox include: The President’s Award, 12 Team Excellent Awards, 22 Special Merit Awards, 3 Eagle Awards, The Star Award, etc. I also have more than 100 United States and non-US patents.



Message From The BOE President . . .

The annual school budget vote is May 20. It's evident that we are all facing cost increases in practically every sector of our lives: food, energy, health care, fuel, water. The school district is not immune to the changes. We face the same increases. The school board asked the superintendent and her team to develop a budget that was realistic and maintained the high academic standards the community expects. The superintendent and her team delivered. The 2008-2009 budget represents a year to year increase of 3.52%. That translates to a 2.42% tax increase from last year or \$.54 per thousand without the STAR exemption. The bottom line is that in the face of increasing costs and reduced aid, we will continue to provide our students with the instructional experience, topnotch staff, innovative technology and positive environment to prepare them for the future.

We've talked about the challenges facing our community. Here's something to consider. In state aid to Wayne County Districts, Williamson received the lowest percentage of base aid (3%). We are looking at ways to increase our share in the future and we will keep you posted on our progress. However we must make decisions based on the reality of today including the potential decline in enrollment. Through sound decisions and stewardship we are able to progress with our capital improvements. I urge you to go to the district website to look at the budget presentation. Just click on the Budget Vote on the left side of the screen. The slide show will walk you through an overview of accomplishments and allocations. There will be a public hearing on the budget on May 7 in the Middle School cafeteria at 7 PM. We will be there to answer your questions.

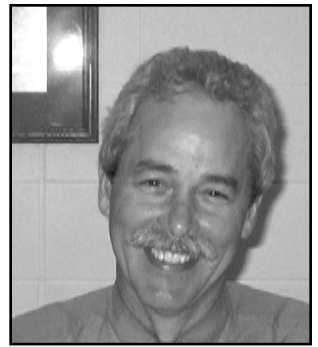
In addition to the budget hearing on May 7, the community will have an opportunity to meet candidates for the school board. There is one vacant seat and two positions up for re-election.

Our community should be proud of our students. They work hard. 91% of our seniors earned Regents diplomas with 57% earning Advanced regents diplomas. For the second year in a row, Williamson has been recognized as a "High Performing/Gap Closing" district. Our students are involved in community service. They participate in interscholastic sports, clubs and activities. They help each other succeed and foster an environment of trust, respect and have fun at the same time. These are not small accomplishments. It's important to remember that the support and engagement we demonstrate as individuals and as a community are foundations of our success. When we are involved in our children's lives and interested in our schools we serve as role models.

According to G.K. Chesterton: *"Education is simply the soul of a society as it passes from one generation to another."*

**Be sure to mark your calendars:
Budget Hearing on Wednesday, May 7 at 7 PM
School Budget Vote and School Board Election on Tuesday, May 20
from 1 PM to 9 PM in the Middle School Cafeteria**

Your support makes all the difference in preparing our students for the future and making our community a better place to live.



Michael Collins
Board of Education President

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