



HAT'S HAPPENING

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

DECEMBER 2010

First Quarter Accomplishments



High School High Honor Roll



High School Improvement Roll



Middle School High Honor Roll



Middle School Improvement Roll

High School . . .

**** DON'T MISS...the High School Vocal and Instrumental Holiday Concert on Monday, December 13, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. in the High School Auditorium. ****



*Douglas Lauf
High School Principal*

Old English Award Winners ~ Fall 2010



Heather Ameele, Morgan Baker, Hannah Barrett, Carly Bean, Jon Beiswanger, Bradley Blauvelt, Catherine Bonke, Brandon DeRue, Christine Dobie, Cortney Dodge, Thomas Ferland, Angelle Flores, Nicholas Frawley, Alexis Ginther, Efrosyni Kostakis, Emily Lindsay, Rayanne Luke, Laura Masisak, Tricia Phillips, Brian Redder, Samantha Scott, Joseph Sewilo, Nicholas Smith, Paul Sperr, Mary William

National Honor Society ~ New Inductees



Laura Allard, Charity Baker, Carly Bean, Trena DeMarree, Brandon DeRue, Cortney Dodge, Amanda Grevell, Dannie Joram, Alex Kopicki, Efrosyni Kostakis, Nicole Krauth, Emily Lindsay, Rayanne Luke, Emily Mogray, Ashley Neal, Tricia Phillips, Tyler Picotte, Caitlyn Pilc, Kyle Robinson, Doug Smith, Greg Stitt, Andrew Stohr, William Verno, Matt Wright, Rick Yackel



Linda Moll, Vice-President Board of Education and Christine DeFisher

DeFisher Dedication

On October 1, 2010, the Haunted Hayrides Family dedicated a lovely tree and bench in the memory of Williamson High School's 2007 Salutatorian, Clayton DeFisher. Clayton was a wonderful young man, who had a zest for life, and certainly loved and appreciated the great outdoors.

In addition, the DeFisher family kindly donated a beautiful stamped-concrete sitting area for around the bench. The sitting area and Red Sunset Maple are located in front of the high school.

Elementary School . . .

The Williamson Elementary School is systematically using the 6 + 1 Traits of Writing to instruct our students UPK through Fourth Grade on the seven elements of a well written piece. Many of us remember having a paper returned to us with the words “Vague” or “Unclear” written in bright red letters across the top of a paper that we spent hours creating only to have this cryptic message returned to us with an “ambiguous” letter grade attached to the red scrawling. I would ask myself, “What is good writing? How do you revise a vague or unclear paper into a piece that has a more positive sunny description like “Fantastic” or “Well Written”!



*Anne Ressler
Elementary School Principal*

6 + 1 Writing Traits is an analytical method of teaching writing that defines each of the six traits of quality writing and connects the traits to the process of revising and editing student work. The six traits of writing plus the concept of presentation are taught to students in a graduated level of expectations with multiple representations of published authors used as examples for each trait.

As students develop an understanding of the 6 + 1 writing traits and see them in the work of great writers, they will move toward analyzing these traits in their own writing and in the writing of their peers.

No longer will students have to ponder, “How can I make this piece better?” They can begin to analyze their writing based on each of the six traits: ideas, organization, word choice, sentence fluency, voice and conventions.

Middle School . . .

Over **68%** of the students in the Middle School are on the Achievement, Merit, Honor or High Honor Roll for the 1st quarter of 2010-11. Students are proud of their accomplishments and teachers are continuing to work hard to instruct and challenge the students. Students are encouraged to seek assistance if needed and be responsible for their learning. Together with families, we encourage students to put forth their best effort and engage in learning. In support of this effort, 78% of Middle School parents picked up their child's report card and had an opportunity to speak directly to classroom teachers at Report Card Night.



*John E. Fulmer
Middle School Principal*

Middle School students have been very active during the first quarter including the Volunteer Club that raked leaves in Pultneyville, Student Association whose officers were elected and modified sports with over 100 students participating in the fall season. Other significant events included a 9-11 Remembrance, Otis Jennings Leadership Workshop, Red Ribbon Week focusing on a drug free lifestyle, “Gathering at the Core” Brown Bag activities and Immigration Day during which eighth grade students were “processed” through an immigration station that mirrored Ellis Island. Student field trips have included eighth grade to Camp Arrowhead, fifth grade to the Smith Opera House and sixth grade to Mission to Mars at the Rochester Museum and Science Center.

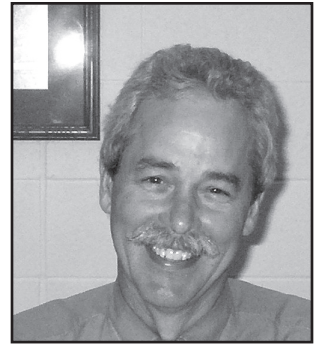
Upcoming events...

- Collection of personal items for donation to the Open Door Mission.
- *Annie* performances on December 10 and 11.
- “Gathering at the Core” Brown Bag enrichment opportunity for grades 5-8 on December 13th at 3:00 in the library.
- Written round of the Spelling Bee – December 15th after school.
- 7th and 8th Grade Holiday Concert – December 16th at 7:00.
- 5th and 6th Grade Holiday Concert – December 21st at 7:00.

Message from the BOE President...

“What’s right about America is that although we have a mess of problems, we have great capacity, intellect and resources -- to do something about them.”

- Henry Ford



*Michael Collins
Board of Education President*

It’s interesting to note that Henry Ford made his observation on the state of our country more than 70 years ago. Yes, it was a different world, but his words are just as relevant today. While we may not be able to solve the world’s problems, we are working on solutions that will have a direct impact on our school district, our community and our region. Take the time to read the school newsletters that are sent home. Check out the district website. Talk to your children and your neighbors. You’ll discover that in spite of all the “doom and gloom” that seems to dominate the media; there is a vibrant and positive community of people who are committed to making a difference every day.

On behalf of the Board, thank you for your support. Please stay engaged, informed and in touch.

Sincerely,

Michael L. Collins, President
WCS Board of Education

Williamson Central School
PO Box 900
Williamson, NY 14589

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