



HAT'S HAPPENING

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

MAY 2012

Building Activities



High School - "Anything Goes"



High School - Project Lead the Way Program



Middle School - Medieval Day



Middle School Students



Elementary School - Explorers

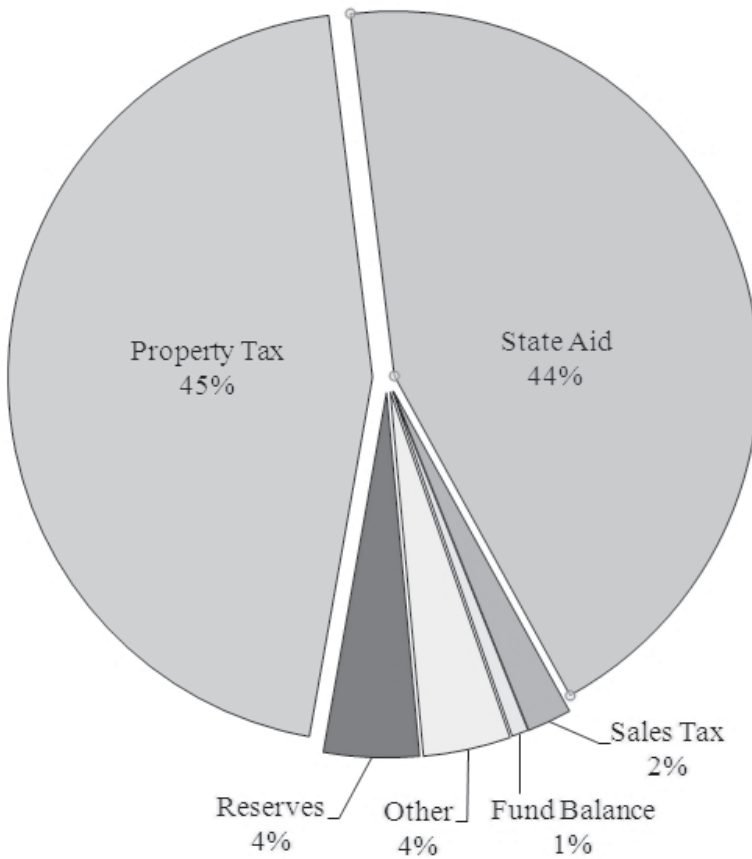


Elementary School - St. Patrick's Day

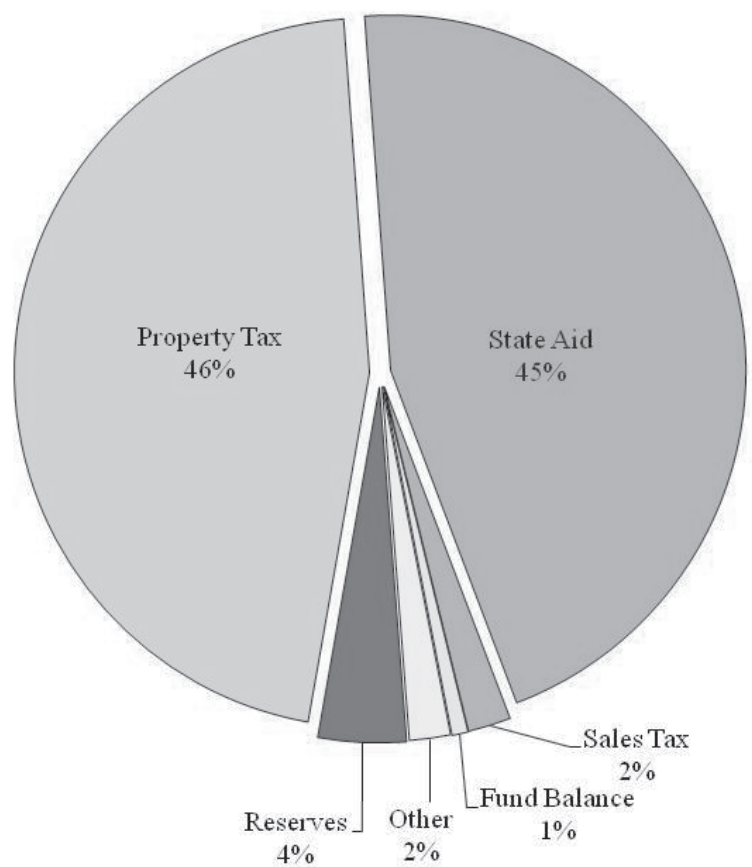
BUDGET VOTE: MAY 15, 2012 – MIDDLE SCHOOL CAFETERIA - 1:00 P.M. – 9:00 P.M.

Revenue Comparison

TOTAL REVENUE 2011-2012
\$20,380,584



TOTAL REVENUE 2012-2013
\$20,506,817



- We received additional state aid this year.
- In spite of that, the amount of aid received from the state this year is less than the amount we received in the 2006-07 school year.
- We are using an additional \$820,000 of our reserve funds to balance the budget.
- The tax increase is within the tax cap limit set by the state.

Tax Rate/\$1,000 Assessed:

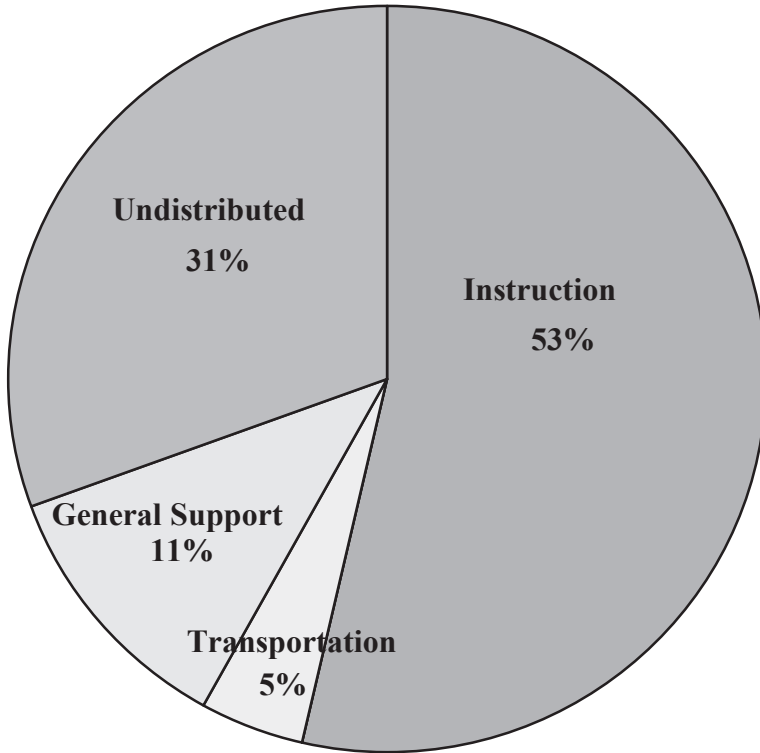
2011-2012 ***\$23.05***

2012-2013 ***\$23.34***

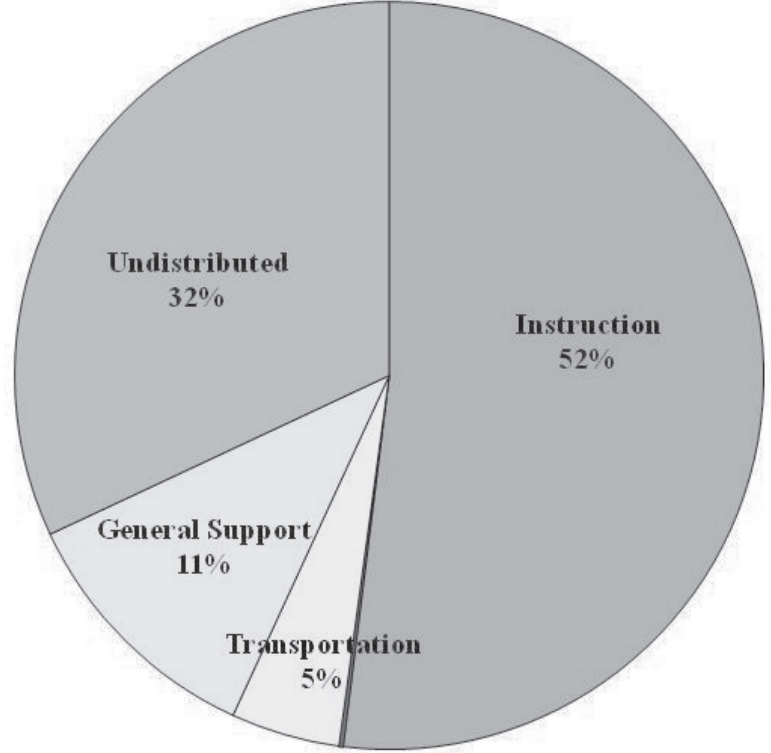
Increase ***\$0.29***

Budget Comparisons

TOTAL BUDGET 2011-2012
\$20,380,584



TOTAL BUDGET 2012-2013
\$20,506,817



- Our budget is **\$126,234 more** than last year.
- It is **\$41,000 less** than the 2008-2009 budget.
- In fact, this will be our **fifth year with a flat budget**
- We cut 5.5 positions this year.
- The teachers and administrators became responsible for a greater portion of their health care cost.
- We are providing more in-house special education services to reduce costs.

<i>For a House Assessed at:</i>	<i>The Annual Increase will be:</i>
<i>\$100,000</i>	<i>\$29.00</i>
<i>\$150,000</i>	<i>\$43.50</i>
<i>\$200,000</i>	<i>\$58.00</i>

School District Budget Notice

Overall Budget Proposal	Budget Adopted for the 2011-12 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2012-13 School Year	Contingency Budget for the 2012-13 School Year *
Total Budgeted Amount	\$20,380,584	\$20,506,817	\$20,429,752
Increase (Decrease) for the 2012-13 school year		\$126,233	\$49,168
Percentage increase(decrease) in each proposed budget		0.62%	0.24%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		3.2%	
School Tax Levy Limit		\$9,436,459	
Proposed School Year Tax Levy (without permissible exclusions to the School Tax Levy Limit)		\$9,432,241	\$9,232,043
Total Permissible Exclusions		\$12,519	
Proposed School Year Tax Levy (including permissible exclusions to the School Tax Levy Limit)	\$9,232,042	\$9,444,760	\$9,232,043
Administrative component	\$ 2,209,400	\$2,190,360	\$2,180,684
Program component	\$15,058,160	\$15,235,948	\$15,187,124
Capital component	\$ 3,113,024	\$3,080,509	\$3,061,944
* Should the proposed budget be defeated and the above contingency budget be adopted, the initial cuts as required by law would be eliminating certain equipment and community use of facilities. Additional cuts may be required to conform to spending caps which would come from programs as determined by the Board of Education at the time of adoption.			

	Budget Proposed for the 2012-13 School Year
Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings¹	\$ 700

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2012-13 by the qualified voters of the Williamson Central School District, Wayne County, New York, will be held at the Williamson Middle School Cafeteria in said district on Tuesday, May 15th, 2012 between the hours of 1:00pm and 9:00pm, prevailing time, at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting machine.

¹ The basic school tax relief (STAR) exemption is authorized by section 425 of the Real Property Tax Law. A full report on property exemptions is available at the District Office and on the website www.williamsoncentral.org.

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 according to the New York State guidelines that were adjusted in 2010. 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 2011. For the high school, the numbers reflect the percentages of students who first entered grade 9 in 2007 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 most of the areas measured. The elementary school, high school and the district are considered to be in good standing according to New York State Education Department Accountability Guidelines, while the Middle School is identified as needing improvement for special education students in English Language Arts.

Williamson Elementary School English Language Arts

	Williamson	NYS Public Schools
Grade 3 English Language Arts	65%	56%
Grade 4 English Language Arts	71%	57%

Williamson Elementary School Mathematics

	Williamson	NYS Public Schools
Grade 3 Mathematics	71%	57%
Grade 4 Mathematics	84%	67%

Williamson Middle School English Language Arts

	Williamson	NYS Public Schools
Grade 5 English Language Arts	60%	54%
Grade 6 English Language Arts	73%	56%
Grade 7 English Language Arts	58%	48%
Grade 8 English Language Arts	54%	47%

Williamson Middle School Mathematics

	Williamson	NYS Public Schools
Grade 5 Mathematics	65%	66%
Grade 6 Mathematics	55%	63%
Grade 7 Mathematics	87%	65%
Grade 8 Mathematics	70%	60%

Williamson High School

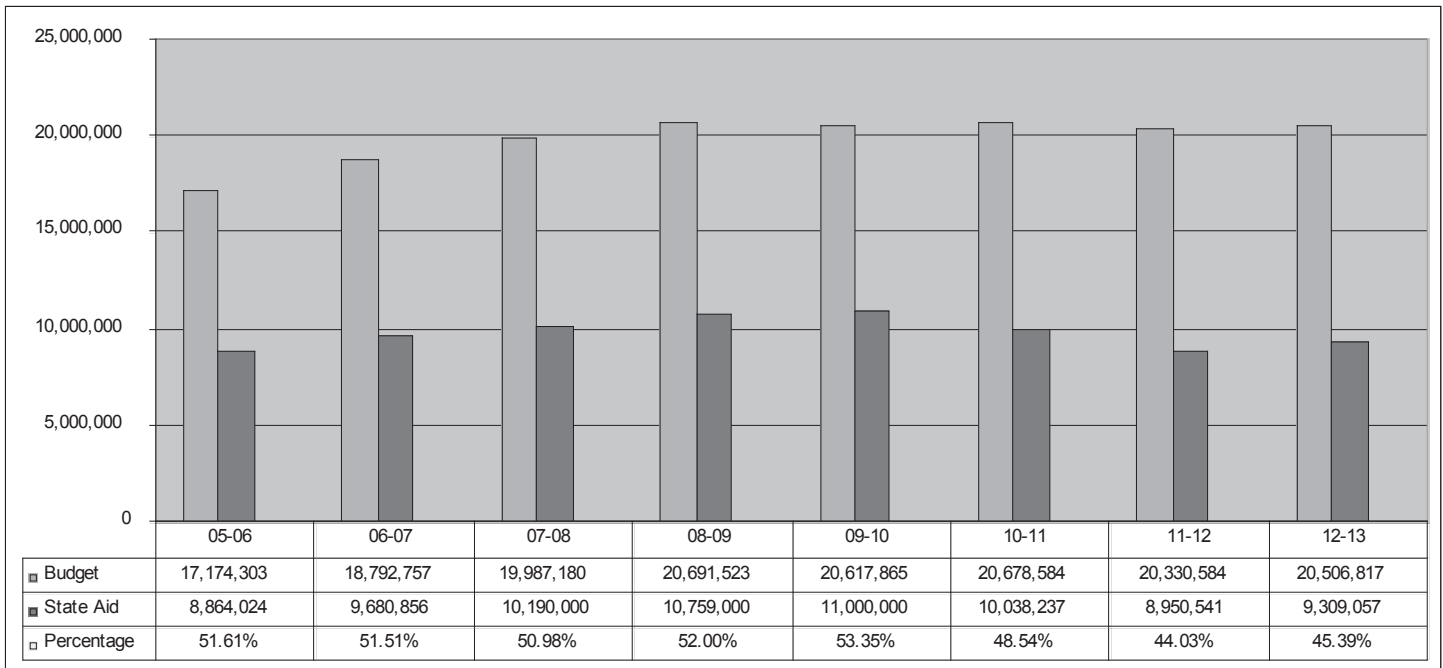
English Language Arts 2007 Cohort Williamson High School: 86% NYS Public Schools: 80%
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Mathematics 2007 Cohort Williamson High School: 90% NYS Public Schools: 81%
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Message from the Superintendent . . .

Aid Picture Improves, but We're Not Out of the Woods

State Aid Over Time



Dear Residents,

As you can see from the chart above, for the first time in three years, the district received a year-to-year increase in state aid. This is welcome news and has helped us to balance the budget. But with this increase and a flat budget, we were still forced to make cuts. This is because even with the aid increase, we still are receiving less aid than we were in 2006-2007. After surveying the community, we believe that the cuts we made will not harm our academic program. Williamson still offers a strong program that can compete with any school in the area. With the cooperation of our staff, who has agreed to take on a larger share of their health care costs, we were able to balance the budget with minimal pain. Again this year, we had to dip into our reserves to balance. These reserves are limited and will run out, but they were put aside for times like these. The Board and I will continue to share our story with our lawmakers at the state level, making the point that there needs to be equity in the distribution of limited state funds. Please remember to vote on May 15th. We believe we have put together a budget that is cognizant of the taxpayers needs while maintaining a strong academic program.



Maria Ehresman
Superintendent of Schools

Board of Education Candidate



I am asking the voters of Williamson to re-elect me to a third term as a trustee of the Williamson Board of Education. I find this position to be very challenging, but also very rewarding. I am currently the Vice-President of the School Board.

My wife Carla and I have had all three of our children attend Williamson. My eldest daughter, Katie Cortash lives with her husband Jeremy in Virginia where they are both schoolteachers and are working toward degrees in school administration. My middle child, Stephanie, works in the Secretary of the Senate's office in the U.S. Capitol and lives in Washington D.C. Our youngest, Matthew, will graduate in June and plans on pursuing an engineering degree. All three have received outstanding educations in Williamson.

I was employed as a social studies teacher with the Oakfield-Alabama C.S.D. as a middle school and high school teacher for ten years. I have served as an assistant high school principal for two years with Oswego C.S.D. I had the privilege to serve as the principal of the Williamson Middle School for eight years. I concluded my career with four years as an elementary school principal in Seneca Falls. During those years I also taught as an adjunct professor for ten years with SUNY Brockport. Unfortunately, due to health reasons, I had to discontinue my working days. However, I still wanted to contribute to our community so I ran for, and was elected to, our school board. I am just completing my second term.

My education consists of a B.S. and M.A degrees in History and a Certificate of Advanced Studies in Educational Administration.

I have the pleasure to also serve the community as President of the Williamson Public Library and was honored with selection as winner of the Diane Roffe-Steinrotter Citizen of the Year. I ask for your vote to help me continue the challenging work the board faces. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Patrick Wright

THE BALLOT

PROPOSITION 1: BUDGET 2012-2013 SCHOOL YEAR

Shall the proposed budget for the 2012-2013 school year, in the amount of \$20,506,817 be approved?

REGARDING PROPOSITION 1

THE TAX RATE IS ESTIMATED TO INCREASE \$0.29/THOUSAND ASSESSED.

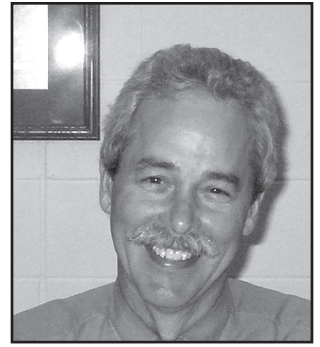
FOR A HOUSE THAT WAS ASSESSED AT \$100,000, THIS WOULD BE AN INCREASE OF \$29.00.

THE TAX INCREASE IS WITHIN THE TAX CAP LIMIT SET BY THE STATE.

Message from the BOE President...

*"The illiterate of the 21st century will not be those who cannot read and write,
but those who cannot learn, unlearn, and relearn. "*

-Alvin Toffler American writer, 1928 –



Michael Collins
Board of Education President

On behalf of the Board of Education I would like to express sincere thanks to the community for your support of the recent capital project. We can all be proud of our district. We would also like to recognize all the administrators, union representatives, teachers and staff for your commitment to maintaining the hard-won momentum we have achieved for our district. Through fair negotiation, hard work and realistic compromise, all parties have agreed to a budget that preserves programs and continues our commitment to providing a quality and relevant education to all of our students.

On Tuesday May 15, 2012 Williamson residents will have the opportunity to vote on the annual school budget and elect Board of Education trustees. This year, we have faced what seems like a perfect storm of budget cuts, mandates and increased costs. We have met the challenges by taking direct action with our legislators and looking for innovative ways to do more with less. We will continue to work hard to address the fiscal inequities between high and low wealth districts. Our most important allies will be an informed and engaged community. Your voice matters. Your vote counts. Exercise your privilege and responsibility to help shape the future of our community. We may not be able to directly influence national issues but we can make a difference at a local level ... and that is where it all begins.

Michael L. Collins, President
WCS Board of Education

"Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It's not. " ~ Dr. Seuss

Mark your calendar. Vote on May 15, 2012.

Williamson Central School
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