



HAT'S HAPPENING

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

MAY 2013

Building Activities



High School - "Sound of Music"



High School - Robotics Team



Middle School - Medieval Day



Middle School - "Fame"



Elementary School - iPads in the Classroom



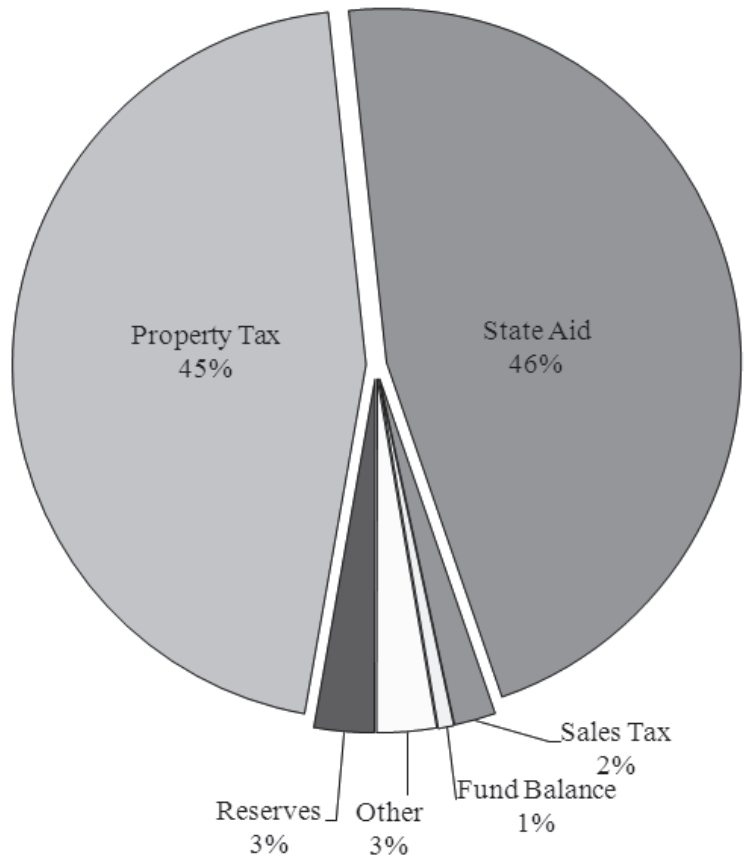
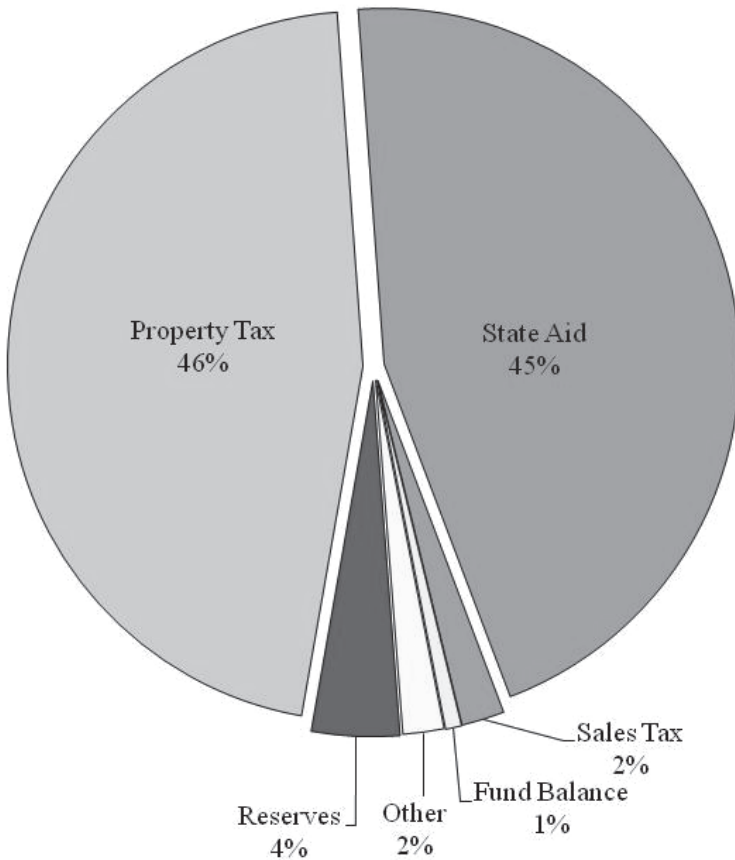
Elementary School - Students with Dictionaries from the Rotary Club

BUDGET VOTE: MAY 21, 2013 – MIDDLE SCHOOL GYMNASIUM 1:00 P.M. – 9:00 P.M.

Revenue Comparison

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

TOTAL REVENUE 2013-2014
\$21,051,455

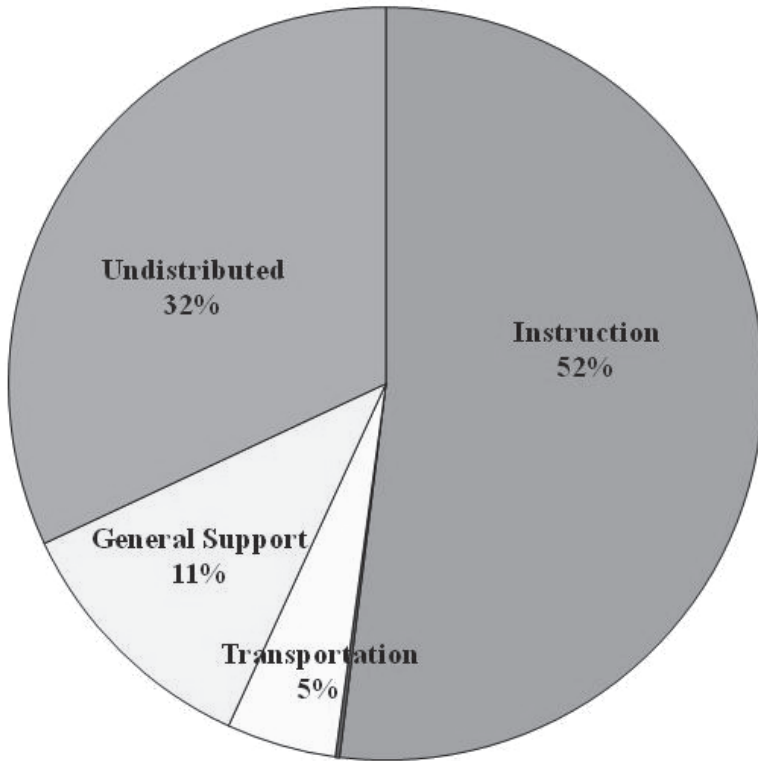


- We received additional state aid this year.
- In spite of that, the amount of aid received from the state this year is less than the amount we received in the 2006-07 school year.
- We are using an additional \$575,000 of our reserve funds to balance the budget.
- The tax increase is below the tax cap limit set by the state.

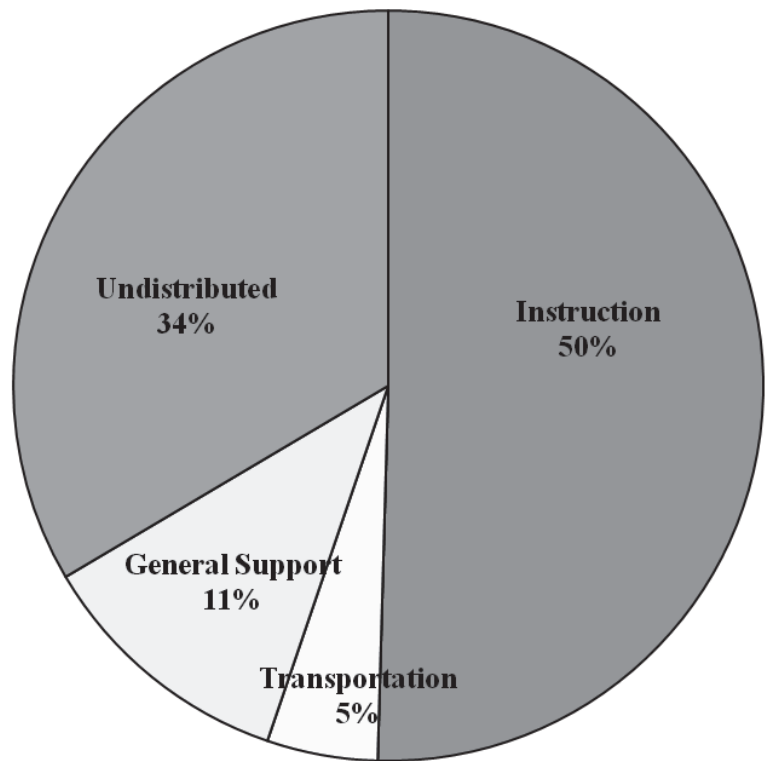
Tax Rate/\$1,000 Assessed:	2012-2013	\$23.48
	2013-2014	\$24.13
	Increase	\$0.65

Budget Comparisons

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



TOTAL BUDGET 2013-2014
\$21,051,455



- Over the last **six years** the total budget has increased a total of **\$359,932**.
- Over the last **six years** our budget has **increased 1.77%**.
- We cut 5.0 positions this year.

<i>For a House Assessed at:</i>	<i>The Annual Increase will be:</i>
<i>\$100,000</i>	<i>\$65.00</i>
<i>\$150,000</i>	<i>\$97.50</i>
<i>\$200,000</i>	<i>\$130.00</i>

School District Budget Notice

Overall Budget Proposal

	Budget Adopted for the 2012-13 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2013-14 School Year	Contingency Budget for the 2013-14 School Year*
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$ 20,506,817	\$ 21,051,455	\$ 20,952,866
Increase/Decrease for the 2013-14 School Year		\$ 544,638	\$ 446,149
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		2.66%	2.18%
Change in the Consumer Price Index		2.1%	
Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy, Including Levy to Support Library Debt, if applicable	\$ 9,444,760	\$9,582,184	\$9,303,760
Total Permissible Exclusions	\$12,519	\$196,287	
A. Proposed School Year Tax Levy, <u>Not</u> Including Levy for Permissible Exclusions or Levy to Support Library Debt	\$9,303,760	\$9,521,082	
B. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Not</u> Including Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$9,448,978	\$9,521,082	
Difference: A - B (Positive Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval - See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions)	\$-145,218	\$-135,185	
Administrative Component	\$ 2,190,360	\$ 2,282,383	\$ 2,272,707
Program Component	\$ 15,235,948	\$ 15,612,718	\$ 15,542,370
Capital Component	\$ 3,080,509	\$ 3,156,354	\$ 3,137,789

* 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.

List Separate Propositions that are not included in the Total Budgeted Amount: (Tax Levy associated with propositions not eligible for exclusion may affect property tax levy limit and voter approval requirements)

Description	Amount

	Under the Budget Proposed for the 2013-14 School Year
Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings ¹	\$ 718

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2013-2014 by the qualified voters of the Williamson School District, Wayne County, New York, will be held at the Williamson Middle School in said district on Tuesday, May 21, 2013 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.

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 2012. For the high school, the numbers reflect the percentages of students who first entered grade 9 in 2008 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 of the areas measured. The High School, Elementary School and the district were considered to be in good standing according to New York State Education Department Accountability Guidelines. The Middle School was considered to be in Improvement status.

Williamson Elementary School English Language Arts

	Williamson	NYS Public Schools
Grade 3 English Language Arts	63%	56%
Grade 4 English Language Arts	63%	59%

Williamson Elementary School Mathematics

	Williamson	NYS Public Schools
Grade 3 Mathematics	69%	61%
Grade 4 Mathematics	69%	69%

Williamson Middle School English Language Arts

	Williamson	NYS Public Schools
Grade 5 English Language Arts	76%	58%
Grade 6 English Language Arts	60%	60%
Grade 7 English Language Arts	67%	52%
Grade 8 English Language Arts	67%	50%

Williamson Middle School Mathematics

	Williamson	NYS Public Schools
Grade 5 Mathematics	81%	67%
Grade 6 Mathematics	51%	65%
Grade 7 Mathematics	77%	65%
Grade 8 Mathematics	82%	61%

Williamson High School

English Language Arts 2008 Cohort
Williamson High School: 88%
NYS Public Schools: 82%

Mathematics 2008 Cohort
Williamson High School: 91%
NYS Public Schools: 82%

THE BALLOT

PROPOSITION 1: BUDGET 2013-2014 SCHOOL YEAR

Shall the proposed budget for the 2013-2014 school year, in the amount of \$21,051,455 be approved?

REGARDING PROPOSITION 1

THE BUDGET IS WITHIN THE TAX CAP LIMIT
THIS IS A 2.66% INCREASE
THE ESTIMATED INCREASE PER THOUSAND IS \$0.65

PROPOSITION 2: BUS PURCHASE

Resolved that the Board of Education of the Williamson Central School District is hereby authorized to undertake the acquisition of 27-passenger handicap school bus, at an estimated maximum cost of \$70,000, and one 62-passenger school bus, at an estimated maximum cost of \$119,000, all at an estimated maximum aggregate cost of \$189,000, less trade-in value, if any, and to appropriate and expend \$35,000 from the existing 2004 Bus Purchase Reserve Fund for such costs, and that the balance of such costs, or so much thereof as may be necessary, shall be raised by the levy of a tax to be collected in annual installments; and, in anticipation of such tax, debt obligations of the School District as may be necessary not to exceed \$154,000 shall be issued, or the School District may enter into an installment purchase contract if the Board of Education determines that it is in the best interest of the school district to finance the purchase in that method.

REGARDING PROPOSITION 2

PURCHASE ONE HANDICAP BUS AT \$70,000 AND ONE LARGE 62 PASSENGER BUS \$119,00 LESS TRADE IN OF \$189,000 WITH THE COST COVERED BY RESERVES AND STATE AID WITH **NO INCREASE IN TAXES**

PROPOSITION 3: ESTABLISH BUS RESERVE FUND

Resolved that the Board of Education of the Williamson Central School District is hereby authorized to establish a Bus Purchase Reserve Fund pursuant to Section 3651 of the Education Law (to be known as the "2013 Bus Purchase Reserve Fund"), with the purpose of such fund being to finance the purchase of school buses, vehicles and equipment that would be eligible for financing under the Local Finance Law, and costs incidental thereto, the ultimate amount of such fund to be \$500,000, plus earnings thereon, the probable term of such fund to be five years, but such fund shall continue in existence until liquidated in accordance with the Education Law or until the funds are exhausted, and the sources from which the funds shall be obtained for such Reserve are (i) an initial deposit from the transfer of the existing balance of the existing Transportation Vehicle Replacement Fund of approximately \$344,375, and (ii) amounts from budgetary appropriations from time to time, and (iii) unappropriated fund balance made available by the Board of Education from time to time, and (iv) New York State Aid received and made available by the Board of Education from time to time, all as permitted by law.

REGARDING PROPOSITION 3

SET UP A NEW BUS RESERVE FUND AND TRANSFER THE MONEY FROM THE OLD RESERVE INTO THE NEW FUND

- ESTABLISH 2013 BUS PURCHASE RESERVE FUND
- FUND MAXIMUM IS \$500,000
- **NO INCREASE IN TAXES**



Board of Education Candidate – Caroline Jackson

My name is Caroline Jackson. I have been a resident of Williamson for 12 years. My husband and I chose Williamson as our residence because of the great reputation the school district has. Our two sons currently attend Williamson Central School. Our son Matthew is in 3rd grade and our son Lucas is in 5th grade. My daughter Ashley graduated in 2012 and is completing her freshman year at Nazareth College. I have always been engaged with our community. Whether it is volunteering in a classroom, Box Tops for Education Coordinator, PTSA, Williamson Recreation Committee or on the Board of Education, my focus is on the

well being of Williamson's children and community.

I am honored to complete my first term on the Board of Education. It has been a great privilege to serve my community. Volunteering in this capacity has showed me that we truly do have a gem of a school district. Our school district has been faced with many state mandates in the past several years. Whether it is APPR, Core Curriculum or declining state aid, we have embraced them and handled them in a professional manner. We have maintained a fairly flat budget for the last 5 years even while enduring declining state aid. We have reached out to the state legislators to demand they be fair with the state aid distribution. While we have made some progress, there is much more to accomplish. Our community must work together to show them that our community is just as important as any other in New York State. With the news of Maria Ehresman's retirement, the board has been faced with the most important change a school district will endure. We have just completed a lengthy superintendent search and feel we have chosen the right candidate to lead us into the future. We have always held the students, staff and communities best interests first and will continue to do so.

I am running for my second term because I feel that I have just started my work and there is much more to accomplish. I believe my contributions to the Board of Education are valuable. With a new superintendent starting in our district, consistency is key as we move forward. We don't know what other challenges we will face in the future but I am honored to work with colleagues that are professional and keep the needs of our students, staff and community first. I ask for your vote for a second term so that we can continue our work to make Williamson the best it can be!

Board of Education Candidate – Michael Collins

Change is inevitable. How we manage change is up to us. That is why I am seeking re-election to the Williamson School Board. If elected, it will be my third term on the board. Looking back, I am proud of our district's progress. More important, I am proud of and thankful for the dedicated team of administrators, teachers and staff who work tirelessly to ensure our district continues to offer students a quality education. I am also grateful for the community support that is the bedrock of our success.

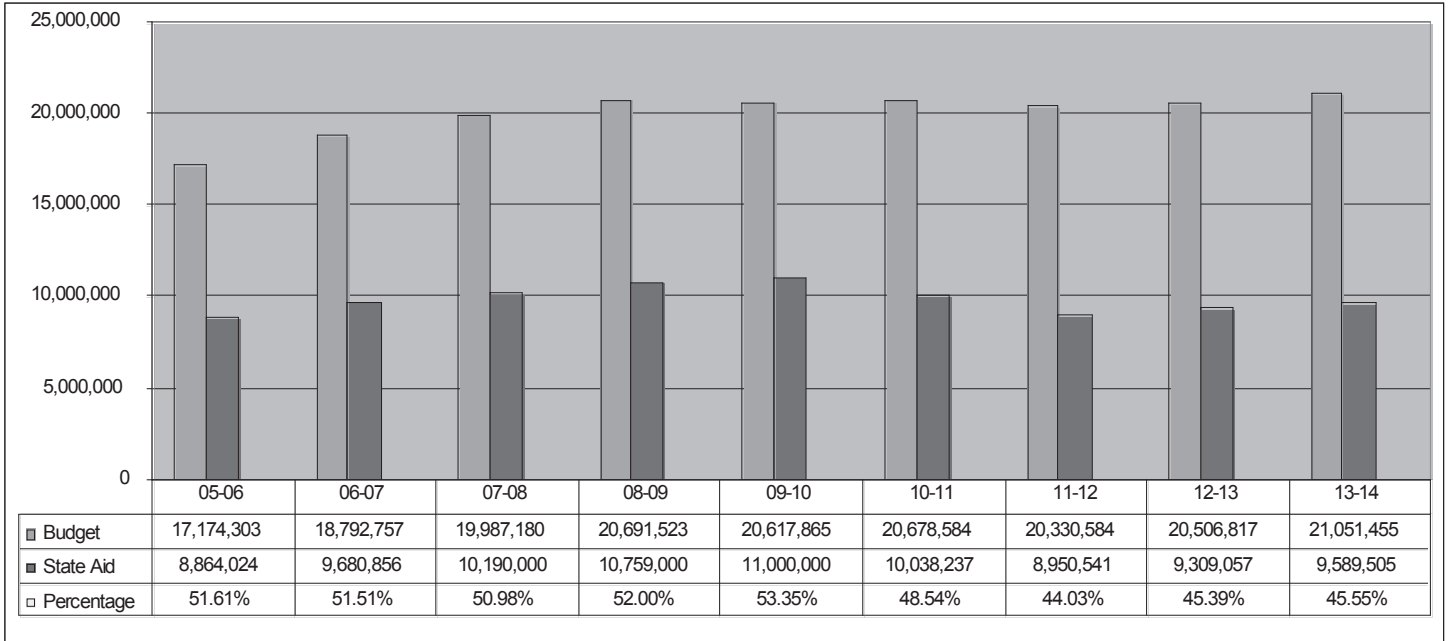


As you know, Superintendent Maria Ehresman will be retiring at the end of this school year. She has had an indelible and positive impact on this district for many years. A new superintendent will take the helm. I feel it is important to provide continuity during this time of transition. I would like to commend my fellow board members for their professionalism and clear commitment to the highest ethical standards. I know that as a team that we will do our best to help provide an education to our children that is relevant and connects them with the realities we face as a society on local, regional and global levels. As a district, we are using differentiated learning techniques to address the diverse ways our students learn. We are connecting real world examples in the classroom. Teachers are challenging students to achieve their personal best. We are challenging ourselves to maintain the high academic standards and the quality education that our community expects and deserves. We will continue to use our existing resources prudently and efficiently to ensure our students, and the entire community has access to opportunities today and in the future. Opportunity also brings accountability. We are committed to fostering an environment that promotes responsibility and measures success through educational outcomes and quality of life. These aren't lofty goals. They are the filters we use to help us navigate through changing times.

Thank you for your support,
Michael Collins

Message from the Superintendent . . .

New Year, Same Story



As you can see from the chart above, the state is supporting us less than they did in the 2006-2007 school year. While we are grateful that the aid has increased from last year, we still have issues that need to be resolved.

We have managed to get through the last four years by making cuts (30 in all), not filling positions when staff retires, re-negotiating with our unions, and using our reserves. These are all limited options in the future. This has resulted in a budget that has increased 1.77% over the last six years. This year's increase of 2.66% is within the tax cap limit.

We thank all of you who have written or contacted our state legislators this year to plead our case. I believe it made a difference. We saw additional aid that was added by the legislative bodies after the original proposal made by the governor.



Maria Ehresman
Superintendent of Schools

Williamson Central School
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