



HAT'S HAPPENING

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

MAY 2015

Building Activities



Elementary School - Immigration Day



Elementary School - Family Math Night



Middle School - Medieval Day



Middle School - "The King and I"



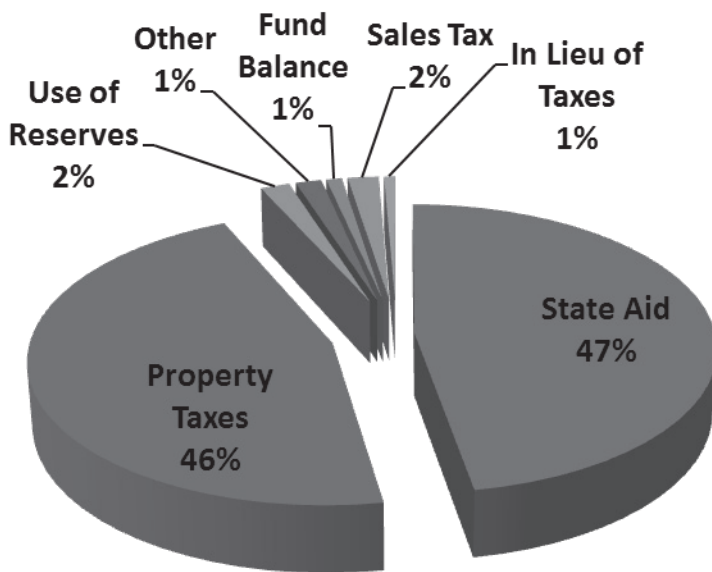
High School - Senior Trip



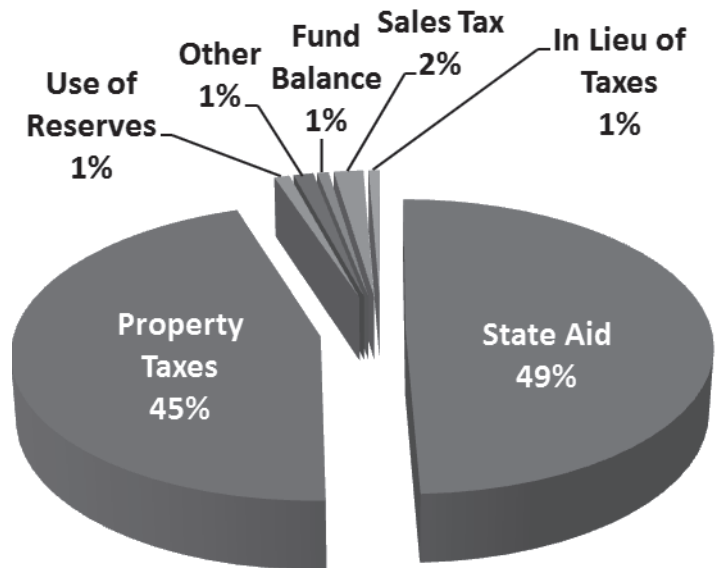
High School - Snow Ball Dance

Revenue Comparison

TOTAL REVENUE 2014-2015
\$21,380,767



TOTAL REVENUE 2015-2016
\$22,046,540



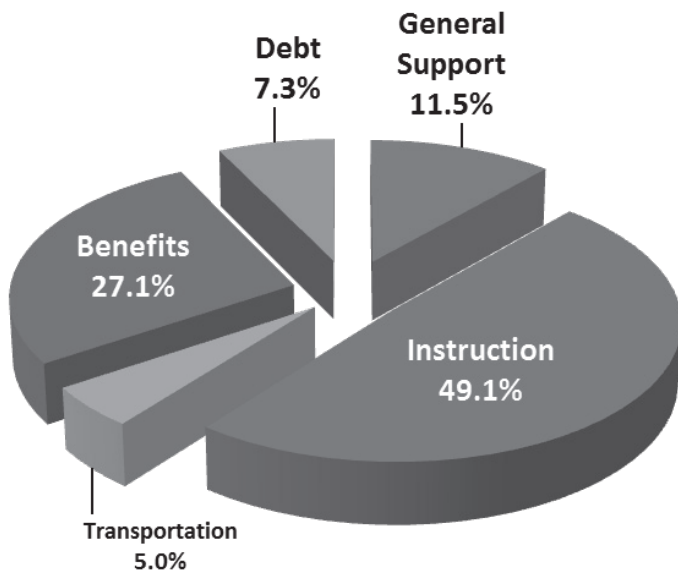
- Our total State Aid increase is higher than last year
- The amount of State Aid is less than it was seven years ago
- We are using an additional \$200,000 from our reserve funds to help balance the budget
- The tax levy is within the tax cap limit set by the state

The 2015-2016 estimated tax rate/\$1,000 of assessed value
\$25.25

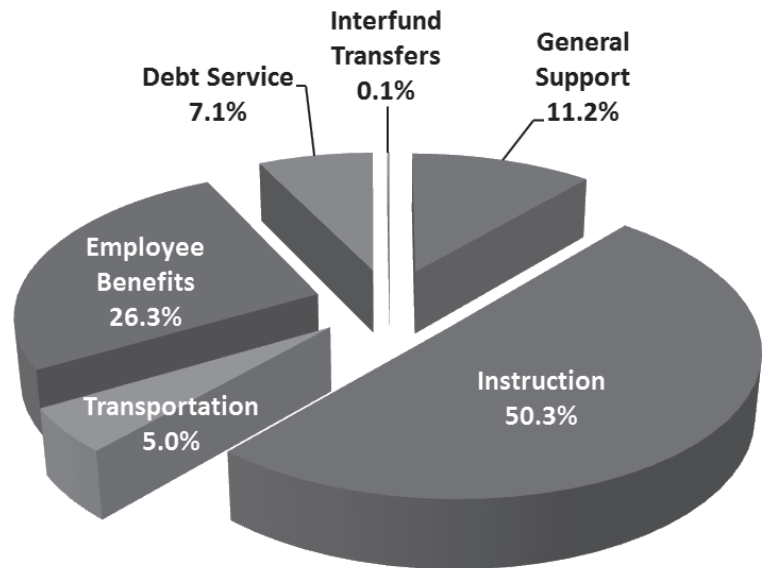
An increase of \$0.48

Budget Comparisons

TOTAL BUDGET 2014-2015
\$21,380,767



TOTAL BUDGET 2015-2016
\$22,046,540



- The budget reflects an increase of 3.11% over last year and just 3.3% over the last seven years
- An increase in State Aid helped eliminate cuts to programs, restore instructional programs and reduce reliance on reserves
- For a house assessed at \$100,000, the tax increase is estimated to be \$48

STAR Exemption Information

The Basic STAR exemption saves the average homeowner approximately \$747 in their school tax bill. Basic STAR is available for owner-occupied primary residences where the resident owner and spouse income is less than \$500,000. This exempts the first \$30,000 of the full value of the home from school taxes.

An example of the savings:

Without STAR a homeowner would pay \$25.25 per \$1,000 taxable assessed value

With STAR a homeowner would pay \$17.68 per \$1,000 taxable assessed value

For more information visit www.tax.ny.gov or by calling (518) 457-2036

School District Budget Notice

Overall Budget Proposal	Budget Adopted for the 2014-15 School Year	Budget Proposed for the 2015-16 School Year	Contingency Budget for the 2015- 16 School Year *
Total Budgeted Amount, Not Including Separate Propositions	\$ 21,380,767	\$ 22,046,540	\$ 21,982,910
Increase/Decrease for the 2015-16 School Year		\$ 665,773	\$ 602,143
Percentage Increase/Decrease in Proposed Budget		3.11 %	2.82 %
Change in the Consumer Price Index		1.62 %	
A. Proposed Tax Levy to Support the Total Budgeted Amount	\$ 9,830,767	\$ 10,007,546	
B. Levy to Support Library Debt, if Applicable	\$ 0	\$ 0	
C. Levy for Non-Excludable Propositions, if Applicable **	\$ 0	\$ 0	
D. Total Tax Cap Reserve Amount Used to Reduce Current Year Levy	\$ 0	\$ 0	
E. Total Proposed School Year Tax Levy (A + B + C - D)	\$ 9,830,767	\$ 10,007,540	\$ 9,943,916
F. Permissible Exclusions to the School Tax Levy Limit	\$ 76,333	\$ 0	
G. School Tax Levy Limit, <u>Excluding</u> Levy for Permissible Exclusions	\$ 9,760,985	\$ 10,033,786	
H. Total Proposed Tax Levy for School Purposes, <u>Excluding</u> Permissible Exclusions and Levy for Library Debt, Plus Prior Year Tax Cap Reserve (E - B - F + D)	\$ 9,754,434	\$ 10,007,540	
I. Difference: (G - H); (Negative Value Requires 60.0% Voter Approval - See Note Below Regarding Separate Propositions) **	\$ 6,551	\$ 26,246	
Administrative Component	\$ 2,271,849	\$ 2,358,173	\$ 2,343,761
Program Component	\$ 15,787,971	\$ 16,334,396	\$ 16,300,610
Capital Component	\$ 3,320,947	\$ 3,353,972	\$ 3,338,539
* 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 educational or transportation services propositions are not eligible for exclusion and may affect voter approval requirements)	Description	Amount	

NOTE: Please submit an electronic version (Word or PDF) of this completed form to:
emscmgts@nysed.gov

Under the Budget Proposed
for the 2015-16 School Year

Estimated Basic STAR Exemption Savings¹

\$ 747

The annual budget vote for the fiscal year 2015-2016 by the qualified voters of the Williamson Central School District, Wayne County, New York, will be held at Middle School in said district on Tuesday, May 19, 2015 between the hours of 1:00pm and 9:00pm, prevailing time, at which time the polls will be opened to vote by voting ballot or 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. New York State Assessments were revised in 2013. 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 2014. For the high school, the numbers reflect the percentages of students who first entered grade 9 in 2010 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 some of the areas measured and are consistent with the performance of New York State Public Schools in others. The Middle School, Elementary School and the district are considered to be in good standing according to New York State Education Department Accountability Guidelines.

Williamson Elementary School English Language Arts

	Williamson	NYS Public Schools
Grade 3 English Language Arts	25%	32%
Grade 4 English Language Arts	32%	32%

Williamson Elementary School Mathematics

	Williamson	NYS Public Schools
Grade 3 Mathematics	48%	42%
Grade 4 Mathematics	37%	42%

Williamson Middle School English Language Arts

	Williamson	NYS Public Schools
Grade 5 English Language Arts	22%	29%
Grade 6 English Language Arts	37%	28%
Grade 7 English Language Arts	27%	28%
Grade 8 English Language Arts	35%	34%

Williamson Middle School Mathematics

	Williamson	NYS Public Schools
Grade 5 Mathematics	28%	39%
Grade 6 Mathematics	30%	37%
Grade 7 Mathematics	41%	32%
Grade 8 Mathematics	11%	22%

Williamson High School

English Language Arts 2010 Cohort
Williamson High School: 82%
NYS Public Schools: 82%

Mathematics 2010 Cohort
Williamson High School: 89%
NYS Public Schools: 84%

THE BALLOT

PROPOSITION 1: BUDGET 2015-2016 SCHOOL YEAR

Shall the proposed budget for the 2015-2016 school year in the amount of \$22,046,540 be approved?

REGARDING PROPOSITION 1

THE BUDGET IS WITHIN THE TAX CAP LIMIT

PROPOSITION 2: BUS PURCHASE

Shall the Board of Education of the Williamson Central School District be authorized to undertake the acquisition of one 65-passenger school bus at an estimated maximum cost of \$110,000, and one 24-passenger school bus at an estimated maximum cost of \$69,500, all at an estimated maximum aggregate cost of \$179,500, less trade-in value, if any, and to appropriate and expend from the existing bus purchase reserve fund \$40,000 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 \$139,500 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 TWO SCHOOL BUSES (ONE SMALL HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE VAN AND ONE 65-PASSENGER SCHOOL BUS) WITH THE COST COVERED BY RESERVES AND STATE AID WITH **NO INCREASE IN TAXES**

PROPOSITION 3: REAUTHORIZE CAPITAL RESERVE FUND

Shall the Board of Education of the Williamson Central School District be authorized to establish a Capital Reserve Fund pursuant to Section 3651 of the Education Law (to be known as the "2015 Building Capital Reserve Fund"), with the purpose of such fund being to finance construction, reconstruction, improvement and equipping of school buildings and facilities; such capital costs being of a type that would be eligible for financing under the local finance law, and costs incidental thereto, the ultimate amount of such fund to be \$1,500,000, plus earnings thereon, the probable term of such fund to be 10 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 of \$353,503.74, to be transferred from the existing 2005 Capital Reserve Fund, 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 CAPITAL RESERVE FUND AND TRANSFER THE MONEY FROM THE OLD RESERVE INTO THE NEW FUND

- ESTABLISH 2015 CAPITAL RESERVE FUND
- FUND MAXIMUM IS \$1.5 MILLION
- **NO INCREASE IN TAXES**



Board of Education Candidate

Monica Fernaays

My name is Monica Fernaays, and I have been a resident of the Williamson Central School District for 16 years. My husband Steven and I have 3 children: Ryan (7th grade), Gavin (6th grade) and Kendall (2nd grade).

I graduated from neighboring Sodus Central in 1992 with a Regent's Diploma, and in 1994 I graduated from the Finger Lakes Community College with an A.A.S. degree (Administrative Assistant). Shortly after graduating from FLCC, I began working in the Human Resources and Payroll field. I am currently employed by Connors-Haas, Inc., in Ontario, NY as their Employee Relations Director.

My family and I are members of the Williamson Methodist Church. My dedication to our community began and continues with being an active member of the PTSA (Parent, Teacher, Student Association) as well as a Brownie Girl Scout Troop Leader. I've also been a parent coach for various teams through the Williamson Recreation Program.

If given the opportunity to serve as a trustee on the Board of Education, I would work with the current trustees, district administration and the community to fulfill our district's vision, mission, and make every effort to provide our "future" with a complete educational experience! I believe my commitment to this community, my career and volunteer services have prepared me to run for a school board trustee position.

I am proud to say that I grew up in a community much like ours, and I am very pleased that my husband and I chose to raise our family in this town. Communities such as ours can provide students with values and characteristics that only a small town can. As we all know, larger districts can offer more course selections and extracurricular activities, but I like to believe that our students are more than just a number here in Williamson...I believe that they are a member of our community, and they should be afforded every opportunity for a bright future! I hope to be part of a team that makes this happen.

As a mother of three school aged children, I'm committed to our district's educational future. I am a stakeholder; I want to see this district succeed and offer as many opportunities as we can to our children, just as much as the next person.

My journey with Williamson Central School District began when my oldest started kindergarten and I became a parent volunteer. Shortly thereafter, I joined the Williamson PTSA. It's been a wonderful experience, and through it, I've had the opportunity to work with a number of our teachers, staff members, administrative staff, and fellow parent volunteers; all of which seem wholly committed to providing our students with a positive academic and social experience. I've thoroughly enjoyed being the Williamson PTSA President, Vice President, chairing fundraisers, providing hospitality, and advocating for our students as a PTSA member. My experiences with the PTSA have only solidified my reasons for wanting to serve as a board trustee, and if given the chance, I look forward to advocating for our students at the school board level.

I believe public education is the heart and soul of any community and by investing in our children, with genuine support, advocacy and encouragement, we will continue to give our students the opportunity to achieve their dreams. Please support me in running for the position of Williamson Board of Education Trustee.

Thank you

Message from the Superintendent . . .

Progress Toward Adequate State Funding

In the February edition of the What's Happening I wrote explaining the crippling effects that the Gap Elimination Adjustment (GEA) has had on our district and many districts across the state. I explained that Williamson Central has lost over \$7 million dollars in state aid due to these reductions over the past five years. This year we stood to lose close to another million dollars and were facing another \$400,000.00 in painful cuts to our programs.

Good news! This year's budget realized a large reduction in the GEA. Our restoration totaled over 63%. It is important to understand two things: (1) the restoration means that we are getting back approximately 63% of what was taken away five years ago . . . this is not new money. (2) We are still being shorted what we are entitled to by well over \$350,000.00. We must maintain our advocacy. I would like to thank our legislators and PTSA for their tireless efforts in partnering with us.

What does this mean for our district? This GEA restoration has three major benefits. First, we will not have to make the painful cuts that we anticipated this year. Second, we can reduce our reliance on the use of reserve funds to balance our budget. Third, we can begin to slowly build back programs with the addition of some Academic Intervention Services, Career Pathways Coordination, Special Education Services, and some rebuilding of our arts programs. While much more work needs to be done at the state level to maintain this positive direction . . . all in all a very refreshing budget season.



Greg Macaluso
Superintendent of Schools

BUDGET VOTE: May 19, 2015 – Middle School Auditorium
1:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Williamson Central School
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Williamson, NY 14589

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