

WHAT'S HAPPENING

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



From The Superintendent

Greetings!

As we reflect on the first part of this school year, we are filled with gratitude for the collective spirit of excellence that defines our schools. We continue to be inspired by the enthusiasm, dedication, and care that each of you – students, staff, and families – brings to our community every day. It is heartening to see how the culture of care permeates every interaction, making our schools not just places for education but places where each individual feels seen, heard, and valued.

Our school traditions are a testament to the strength of our community. Events this fall – like Big Pumpkin Day, where students celebrated the season together, and the heartfelt observance of Veterans Day – remind us of the values of unity, respect, and gratitude. These traditions, along with our upcoming holiday concerts and the MS musical, foster a sense of belonging and celebrate the creativity, teamwork, and joy of our students.

Amplifying Student Voice

This year, we are especially excited about opportunities for students to influence district decision-making. In December, the Superintendent's High School Student Advisory Council will launch, engaging students in grades 9–12 in monthly conversations to:

- Offer feedback on school initiatives
- Shape decisions impacting the student body
- Raise issues of concern and importance
- Strengthen relationships and communication

Additionally, Dr. Snyder has launched a Principal's group with students at the High School to provide insight into the WCS student experience, and for the first time ever, we have an Ex Officio Student Board of Education member. These initiatives highlight our commitment to advocacy *with and for* our students.

Strategic Planning: A Shared Vision for Growth

These student-centered initiatives align with our 2025–2026 Strategic Plan and the district's Four Essential Objectives—Student Achievement, Culture of Caring, Community Connections, and Fiscal Responsibility. Strategic planning allows us to coordinate resources, make data-informed decisions, and align district, building, and individual goals. The alignment between administrators' professional goals, building planning team objectives, and classroom-level actions all directly support the district's overarching priorities, creating a clear line of sight from strategy to implementation. By connecting planning and goals across all levels, WCS maximizes impact and fosters a culture of continuous improvement.

Investing in Our Facilities

Our facilities provide the foundation for teaching, learning, and student success. Maintaining and improving our schools is a strategic investment in the long-term vitality of the district. Over the past year, the District has worked with our Facilities Committee, User Groups, and **SEI Design Group** to review the 2022 Building Condition Survey and identify key priorities

to sustain safe, secure, and high-quality learning environments.

Residents are encouraged to review the proposed Capital Improvement Project details in this newsletter and to attend the Public Hearing on December 3. Questions or comments can be directed to Superintendent E. Bridget Ashton at bashton@williamsoncentral.org or Business Official Penny Johnston at pjohnston@williamsoncentral.org. Additional details are available on the District website at williamsoncentral.org.

Through strategic planning, investment in facilities, and amplified student voice, WCS continues to build a future where every student can thrive academically, socially, and personally.

Thank you for partnering with the Williamson Central School District in this incredible work.

Regards,

E. Bridget Ashton
Superintendent



2025 Capital Improvement Project

Preserving Assets • Maintaining Tax Neutrality

The Williamson Central School District is committed to providing safe, efficient, and well-maintained learning environments for all students while serving as responsible stewards of community resources. To support that commitment, the district is presenting a **proposed 2025 Capital Improvement Project** focused on facility preservation, community use, and long-term fiscal stability.

A **public referendum** is scheduled for **December 10, 2025**, to allow residents to vote on facility improvements identified in the district's **2022 Building Condition Survey** and subsequent planning work.

Project Overview

The proposal is intended to maintain and extend the useful life of district buildings and grounds. Planning included input from district administrators, architects, the facilities department, and school-based groups to determine priorities and address required updates.

Proposition 1: District-Wide Asset Preservation

Purpose: Address core infrastructure needs to ensure the continued safety, reliability, and efficiency of district facilities.

Scope of Work: Projects would be completed at the Elementary, Middle, and High Schools, focusing on systems essential to daily operations:

- Roof replacements and repairs
- Heating and mechanical system upgrades
- Plumbing system updates

These items were identified as priorities to preserve building integrity and sustain operational efficiency.

Proposition 2: Community and Athletic Field Improvements (Contingent upon approval of Proposition 1)

If Proposition 1 is approved, voters will also consider Proposition 2, which includes proposed upgrades to the High School baseball and softball fields. The work would focus on improving field safety, accessibility, and usability for student and community programs.

Financial Overview

Project Total: \$22,840,000

No Tax Impact

The proposed 2025 Capital Project is structured to be **tax neutral** based on current estimates, meaning that the project will not result in an increase to the local tax levy.

Key Financial Components:

- **State Building Aid:** Approximately 84% of eligible costs are anticipated to be reimbursed by New York State.
- **Capital Reserve Funds:** The district plans to use voter-approved reserve funds to offset the local share.
- **Debt Management:** The proposal aligns with existing debt schedules to maintain the district's financial position.

Community Participation

District residents are encouraged to review project details, attend informational meetings, and ask questions in advance of the **December 10, 2025 vote**.

Additional information, including detailed project summaries and financial data, is available on the district website. Community members are also encouraged to attend the Public Hearing on December 3, 2025 at 6:00PM in the BOE Conference Room at the Middle School.

FISCAL
RESPONSIBILITY



**CAPITAL PROJECT
PUBLIC HEARING:**

December 3



**CAPITAL
IMPROVEMENT
PROJECT VOTE:**

December 10

3:00 - 9:00 p.m.

**High School
Cafeteria**



High School Students Presented with Old English W Award



The Old English W is an award given to a student who earns the highest GPA in a particular course from the previous year. The award originally began during the principalship of Bob Horr in the 1970s. It was featured on the Today Show back then because of the significance of being the first known academic letter award in the nation.

Students receiving an OEW for one course:

Brianna Bohannon, Nathan Brandt, Benjamin Burns, Laura Colfer, Leah Genge, Zoie Gilman-Shuler, Trinity Jones, Elizabeth Karasinski, Hailey Kramer, Elizabeth Kreuzer, Larry Lindner, III, Ronan Martinez, Lia McArthur, Aidan McVey, Breanna Shaver, Mackenzie Speranza, Eli Stubbings, Joseph VanLare, Ryan Wahl, Dylan Zwierlein

Students receiving an OEW for two courses:

Cohen Burggraaff, Jace DeLyser, Ruth Gasparri, Katherine Kuhl

Students receiving an OEW for 3 courses:

Maya Brown & Ryan Wagner

Student receiving an OEW for 4 courses:

Caiden Watson

Students receiving an OEW for 5 courses:

Renee Groesbeck

Seniors Take on Bristol Mountain's Aerial Adventures



Williamson High School seniors took on the Bristol Mountain Aerial Adventures ropes course, challenging themselves to climb, balance, and zip through the treetops. The experience encouraged teamwork, perseverance, and confidence as students tackled each obstacle together.



STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT



During October's Board of Education meeting, three seniors were honored through the College Board National Recognition program for their academic achievements.

We celebrated Renee Groesbeck, Alyssa Retzer and Jonathan Ryan as awardees of the 2025 National Recognition Program!



Student Board of Education members, from across the region, including Williamson senior Ronan Matrinez, came together this fall for a day of connection, learning, and leadership.

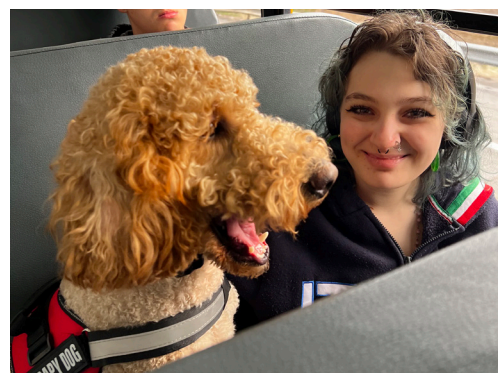
Hosted by the New York State School Boards Association (NYSSBA) and the Four County School Boards Association (4CSBA), the event featured a virtual welcome from state education leaders followed by activities where students shared ideas, built relationships, and explored the impact of their roles on local boards.

CULTURE OF CARING



Meet Olive, our Therapy Dog

Olive is our two-year-old therapy dog who has been working in the counseling office since April of 2024. Her handler and owner is Mary Weil. Olive has a gift for sensing what people need: some students come to talk; others simply sit and let her rest her head on their knees. Her presence turns the guidance office into something softer, more human. She listens without judgment, comforts without words—a small heartbeat of hope in a place that holds so many quiet stories.





Harvest Fest a SMASH

Middle school students celebrated the fall season with treats, laughter, and friendly competition for the annual Harvest Fest. Williamson PTSA teamed up with Wayne County Community Schools to provide juice and donuts, adding to the festive spirit. The highlight of the event was the annual pumpkin drop – this year's champion was seventh grade ELA teacher, Mrs. Bills!

A special thank-you goes to Lakeville Orchards, Inc. for donating apples, Mrs. Brennan from the cafeteria staff for making the donuts, and the PTSA for their continued support in making Harvest Fest such a success.



Looking Ahead to Career Readiness ➤



➤ SKILLED TRADES

Williamson Middle School students explored the world of skilled trades through an engaging "Welding to Inspire: Virtual Reality" presentation through our Williamson Community Schools program.

The program highlighted the growing demand for skilled welders and showed how technology and precision play a vital role in modern industries.

CULTURE OF CARING



Veterans Day

The Williamson Middle School held its 10th annual Veterans Day celebration this year. We were fortunate to have Williamson alumni Nicholas Palmer and state Assemblyman Brian Manktelow, both of whom served in the United States Army, speak to our students. They were joined by dozens of other veterans that served in the United States military.

To all our veterans, we thank you for your service.



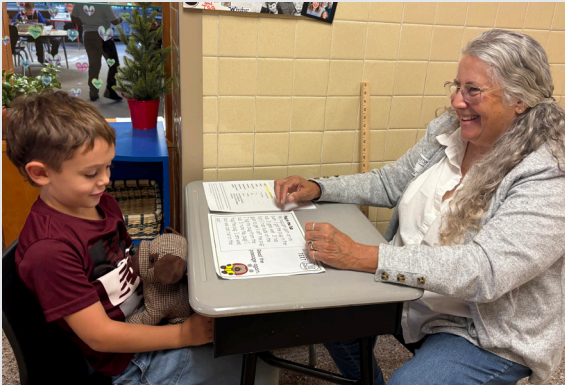
CAREER CARNIVAL

Williamson Middle School eighth grade students participated in the Wayne County Career Carnival, an event designed to help students explore future career opportunities. Through hands-on activities and demonstrations led by local businesses and colleges, students gained valuable insight into a variety of professions.



Grandmas in the Classroom

Grandmas make the world a better place! They can build us up, lend an ear, and spoil us, a bit, too! 'Grammy Barb' Cantwell and 'Grandma (Joann) Johnson' visit weekly to encourage and listen to Mrs. Fischer's first grade readers. Students are eager for their turn despite the hard work required to practice new skills! Life and learning is easier when you have a grandma cheering you on! These volunteers show up faithfully, have been known to drop off a class treat around the holidays, and offer hugs and encouragement to the teacher, too!



Students Learn Fire Safety

Williamson Elementary students enjoyed a special visit from the Williamson, East Williamson, and Pultneyville Fire Departments as part of Fire Prevention Week. Firefighters shared important lessons about fire safety, demonstrated their equipment, and gave students a close-up look at the fire trucks.





Big Pumpkin Day Celebration



Taking a Bite on Big Apple Crunch Day

Williamson Elementary
celebrated Big Apple Crunch
Day with delicious Fuji
apples generously donated by
Lakeville Orchards, Inc.



Athletics & Activities

SECTIONAL CHAMPIONS!



Congratulations to both our Boys and Girls Varsity Soccer Teams, and Boys and Girls Cross Country on winning Section V Championships!



Upcoming Events at Williamson Central School

- Dec. 5-7 Middle School Musical, Friday- 7 p.m., Saturday & Sunday- 2 p.m.
- Dec. 6 RPO at the High School 7 p.m.
- Dec. 9 Fourth Grade Winter Concert, 7 p.m.
- Dec. 11 Seventh & Eighth Grade Winter Concert, 7 p.m.
- Dec. 15 Fall Season Athletic Celebration, 6 p.m.
- Dec. 16 High School Winter Concert, 7 p.m.
- Dec. 17 Fifth & Sixth Grade Winter Concert, 7 p.m.
- Dec. 18 Concert Make-up date
- Dec. 22 - Jan. 2 Holiday Recess

Williamson Central School



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provided by the Williamson Central School District.*

We are HIRING



Williamson Central
School District is a
great place to work.

WANT TO JOIN OUR TEAM?
SCAN THE QR CODE OR
HEAD TO OUR DISTRICT WEBSITE:
WILLIAMSONCENTRAL.ORG/CAREERS