

FROM THE PRINCIPAL...*Daniel Starr, Ed.D.*

In the past month we have lived the tragedy of the terrorist attacks and heard President Bush speak of our resolve to move on with our lives. As this resolve pertains to Williamson High School, please note two things. First, you can be proud of the maturity with which our students—*your children*—responded to the tragedy.

Second, we are more security conscious, as are public buildings across the country. In most instances, this translates into inconveniences for us. **The High School will have only one accessible entrance available after 8:00 a.m.** Anyone who enters the building must do so through the front doors by the Main Office.

DROP EVERYTHING AND READ

There are numerous initiatives throughout the district to **improve our students' ability to read.** The House Planning Team in the High School researched the implementation of a **daily tie for quiet reading built into the school day.** This is a well-known tactic in elementary schools, but few high schools do it. **The concept is simple, the more you do something, the better you become at that something.**

The plan is called **"Drop Everything And Read!"** We have shortened regular class periods by two minutes. That gives us **an 18-minute block of time during the school day that will be devoted to silent reading.** It will not be used for homework, and everybody in the building will take part. The time of day we do this will vary from month to month.

Beginning October 1st, the students will be allowed to **read anything they want – books, magazines, newspapers, etc.** This will give people a chance to get used to the idea. **Beginning November 1st,** the students will select a book of their choice. We are approaching it this way because we find that students have difficulty visualizing a concept without pictures in the text to help them. We want to provide the time for them to develop this skill, and the sacrifice of two instructional minutes per period will do that.

So, **WE COULD USE YOUR OLD BOOKS.** If you have old (or slightly old) paperbacks and/or summer reading piled in the corner, send them to the High School and we will offer them to students. We want and will encourage students to select their own books, but your donations will help to ensure that there is a sufficient supply of books from which the students can choose.

Young Americans, a talented group of college students visited Williamson for the fourth time in the last eight years. They arrived a few days later than scheduled due to travel complications; but they made it, and we are the beneficiaries of their travel! The program began Sunday, September 16, and culminated with a

"A DOLLAR A DAY"

*OUR PLAN TO RAISE MONEY FOR THE
AMERICAN RED CROSS
DISASTER RELIEF FUND*

Like so many people across the country, a few of our students with specific ideas approached Mrs. Showman, Mrs. Merriett and me. Their desire to act led to a meeting of interested students and staff wanting to create a plan to contribute.

The plan that emerged from the students was entitled "A Dollar A Day." From September 19 to September 25, students and school personnel were asked to contribute \$1 every day. The goal was \$2500.

On October 1st, the director of the Wayne County Chapter of the American Red Cross will be in forum to receive a check from this initiative. The students who organized this event, Samantha BennettLepel, Christy Siragusa, and Erin Peters, asked that if the goal was met, that the teachers declare October 1st as "No Homework Day" throughout the building. The faculty responded enthusiastically to this. So far, WHS has collected \$1720.24.

performance on Tuesday evening, September 18. Students from all three buildings and other school districts were involved, and came away from this workshop with the experience of performing with and as professional entertainers. The enthusiasm and energy they bring to our school and to our students is a joy to behold! Thanks to Mrs. Fiegl for the time and energy she devotes to bringing The Young Americans to our school.

The tradition of the “**Old English W**” award continues as **26 students were recognized for their successes during the 2000-01 school year.** Students who attained the highest average in each course were presented an award at an assembly on the morning of September 28th. The awards encompass all of our courses, not just the traditional academic core. The “Old English W” award is as uniquely Williamson as any of the traditions we have. **Receiving awards were current seniors:** Michael Cantwell, Joseph Frank, Eli Gelo, Katie Henderson, Katie Hollenbeck, Zackery Knowlden, Joseph Kotvis, Chelsea Manahan, Amber Payne, Adrienne (Anna) Peters, Ashley Pulver; **current juniors:** Alexander Bean, Michael Burdick, Dean Ganskop, Connie Kaplin, Jeffrey Starr, David Verdine, Ryan Walvoord; **current sophomores:** Jeana Ganskop, Christopher Gowan, Anthony Guilfoil, Zachary Lewis, Shayna Malloy, Kyla Quinn, Shawn Richman; **and current freshman,** Audrey Wackerman. Congratulations to all!

On Tuesday, October 16, **students in grades 10 and 12** will be given a survey called “*Search Institute Profiles of Student Life: Attitudes and Behaviors.*” It is commonly referred to as the “Assets” survey. It is intended to help us, as a community, identify the positive and negative factors influencing the lives of our children. **Please read the letter contained in this publication that outlines the survey and the purposes that underlie it.** If you do not want your child to take part in this survey, you must sign the form at the bottom of the letter and return it to the High School by October 9th.

FROM THE HEALTH OFFICE...

Cynthia Showman, R.N.

Winter Sports sign-ups will be from Monday, October 1st, to Friday, October 5th. Any student wishing to try out for a winter sport (boys and girls basketball, wrestling, indoor track, and girls cheerleading) is asked to sign up outside the health office this week. **Health history forms will be handed out the following week and will need to be returned by Friday, October 19th.** **Physicals will be on Tuesday, October 23rd and Tuesday, October 30th, for any student who wishes to have theirs done at school.**

Many students have not yet handed in their *Student Information Sheet*. Please remind your son or daughter to hand them in to the Health Office as soon as possible. This is especially important in order to contact parents during the day in case of a medical emergency, so they need to be updated each year. If you do not have one, they are available in the Health Office and the Main Office. Thank you!

Orders for yearbooks will be taken during lunch periods beginning October 1st. The price has been set at \$33.00, and checks should be made payable to “The Log 2002.”



The organizational meeting for Snowboard and Ski Club will be Wednesday, October 17, at 7:00 p.m., in Room 13 of the Middle School. At this time registration materials will be distributed and questions answered about our annual Snowboard and Ski Club trips to Brantling December 7, 14, 21, January 4, 11, 18 (make-up). Costs vary according to program selected. If you can not attend this meeting the registration materials will be available beginning October 18 in the middle school and high school.

The FRANCE TRIP 2001 GROUP
would like to thank all of you who supported our
clothing drive on
September 13th.

Dear Parent or Guardian:

On October 16th, during 1st period, our school district will conduct a very important study on the needs, attitudes, and behaviors of our students in grades 6, 8, 10, and 12.

The survey is titled *Search Institute Profiles of Student Life: Attitudes and Behaviors*. It will provide our school and community with a wide range of information, such as how students spend their time, their perceptions of school and community life, and their participation in a wide range of risky behaviors. Most important, the survey will tell us the extent to which our students are experiencing developmental assets. Developmental assets are the "building blocks" of positive relationships, opportunities, skills and values that young people need to grow into healthy, caring, and responsible adults. An initial community group met this summer to learn about this survey and the development of assets. They agreed that the results of this survey would give us valuable information to help us address the needs of our youth. We have included a list of the assets on the back side of this letter for your review. If you would like to become part of the Assets Community Group, please call the District Office at 589-9661, and we will inform you of our next meeting.

Additional information on the survey

- Students will be given one full class period in which to complete the survey. The surveys are completed anonymously. No one will know how individual students responded to questions.
- All students within each classroom place their completed surveys into one envelope. The envelope is then sealed. All envelopes from our school are sent directly to Search Institute (Minneapolis) for processing. No one at our school will review any of the completed surveys.
- The final report will present findings by the total group, by grade, and by gender. No individual student data are reported.
- Students are told that their participation is voluntary and that they may skip items if they so choose.
- The survey is not a test they take for school grades, and their grades will not be affected if they choose not to participate. Nonparticipating students will be sent to the library or auditorium.

Please give serious consideration for your child to participate in this study. A copy of the survey is available for your review in the Building's Main Office between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. The value of a study of this kind depends upon the participation of every student.

If you do not want your child to participate, you **must** return the form at the bottom of this letter by **October 9, 2001**. If no form is received, your child will participate in the study.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 589-9621. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Daniel R. Starr, Ed.D.
High School Principal

Please withdraw my child from participation in the *Attitudes and Behaviors* survey.

Child's Name (please print) _____ Grade Level _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian _____ Date _____

Homecoming

The High School will be celebrating with a **full week of activities** beginning October 8th. Each day will have a theme, and students will dress to suit that theme. Thursday afternoon, each class will decorate the halls to support our sports teams. **Friday, October 12, will be red and white day**, and there will be a Pep Rally, where teams will be recognized and a King and Queen will be crowned. The Cheerleaders will be selling tattoos and glow-in-the-dark necklaces at the games on Friday, and some lucky fans will receive soccer balls thanks to the generosity of MOTTs. Saturday, October 13, the Cheerleaders will sponsor a **CHICKEN B-B-Q from 1:00-4:00 p.m., on Saturday, October 13. Later, at 6:00 and 8:00 p.m., the ALUMNI games, to benefit the Maureen and Michael Wright Scholarship fund,** will be held. For a complete look at the athletic events taking place, please see the enclosed athletic schedule.

DINE-A-MATE BOOKS

The **Williamson High School Spanish Club** will be selling Dine-A-Mate coupon books and a variety of food and gift items as a fundraiser from October 9 – October 15, 2001. The Dine-A-Mate books sell for \$22.00 and offer two-for-one coupons for meals, services, dry cleaning, movies and hotels. There are also different food and gift items available through Great American Food Company. This program funds extra-curricular activities such as field trips, craft projects, and guest speakers for the students in the Williamson High School Spanish program.

Books and other items can be ordered through any Spanish student or by calling Ms. Johnson at school, at 589-9621. The students of the club thank you in advance for your generosity this year, as the community has demonstrated overwhelming support in the past. Gracias!

Publication of the
WILLIAMSON SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL
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**LOOK INSIDE
FOR...**

**'Drop Everything And Read'
initiative -- and our need for
your used books and magazines
Information on "Assets" survey
Athletic Schedule**



40 Developmental Assets

Search Institute has identified the following building blocks of healthy development that help young people grow up healthy, caring, and responsible.

	CATEGORY	ASSET NAME AND DEFINITION
EXTERNAL ASSETS	Support	1. Family support —Family life provides high levels of love and support. 2. Positive family communication —Young person and her or his parent(s) communicate positively, and young person is willing to seek advice and counsel from parent(s). 3. Other adult relationships —Young person receives support from three or more nonparent adults. 4. Caring neighborhood —Young person experiences caring neighbors. 5. Caring school climate —School provides a caring, encouraging environment. 6. Parent involvement in schooling —Parent(s) are actively involved in helping young person succeed in school.
	Empowerment	7. Community values youth —Young person perceives that adults in the community value youth. 8. Youth as resources —Young people are given useful roles in the community. 9. Service to others —Young person serves in the community one hour or more per week. 10. Safety —Young person feels safe at home, at school, and in the neighborhood.
	Boundaries & Expectations	11. Family boundaries —Family has clear rules and consequences and monitors the young person's whereabouts. 12. School boundaries —School provides clear rules and consequences. 13. Neighborhood boundaries —Neighbors take responsibility for monitoring young people's behavior. 14. Adult role models —Parent(s) and other adults model positive, responsible behavior. 15. Positive peer influence —Young person's best friends model responsible behavior. 16. High expectations —Both parent(s) and teachers encourage the young person to do well.
	Constructive Use of Time	17. Creative activities —Young person spends three or more hours per week in lessons or practice in music, theater, or other arts. 18. Youth programs —Young person spends three or more hours per week in sports, clubs, or organizations at school and/or in the community. 19. Religious community —Young person spends one or more hours per week in activities in a religious institution. 20. Time at home —Young person is out with friends "with nothing special to do" two or fewer nights per week.
INTERNAL ASSETS	Commitment to Learning	21. Achievement motivation —Young person is motivated to do well in school. 22. School engagement —Young person is actively engaged in learning. 23. Homework —Young person reports doing at least one hour of homework every school day. 24. Bonding to school —Young person cares about her or his school. 25. Reading for pleasure —Young person reads for pleasure three or more hours per week.
	Positive Values	26. Caring —Young person places high value on helping other people. 27. Equality and social justice —Young person places high value on promoting equality and reducing hunger and poverty. 28. Integrity —Young person acts on convictions and stands up for her or his beliefs. 29. Honesty —Young person "tells the truth even when it is not easy." 30. Responsibility —Young person accepts and takes personal responsibility. 31. Restraint —Young person believes it is important not to be sexually active or to use alcohol or other drugs.
	Social Competencies	32. Planning and decision making —Young person knows how to plan ahead and make choices. 33. Interpersonal competence —Young person has empathy, sensitivity, and friendship skills. 34. Cultural competence —Young person has knowledge of and comfort with people of different cultural/racial/ethnic backgrounds. 35. Resistance skills —Young person can resist negative peer pressure and dangerous situations. 36. Peaceful conflict resolution —Young person seeks to resolve conflict nonviolently.
	Positive Identity	37. Personal power —Young person feels he or she has control over "things that happen to me." 38. Self-esteem —Young person reports having a high self-esteem. 39. Sense of purpose —Young person reports that "my life has a purpose." 40. Positive view of personal future —Young person is optimistic about her or his personal future.

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Williamson Senior High School
October 2001

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 A	2 B Spanish Club meets 10 th period (rm. 11)	3 C	4 D Student Council meets 10 th period (rm. 10)	5 E End of 5 weeks	6
7	8 NO SCHOOL COLUMBUS DAY	9 F Spanish Club DINE-A-MATE sale begins (ends 10/15/01)	10 A Board of Education 7:30 p.m. @ M.S.	11 B Student Council Meeting 10 th period (rm. 10)	12 C HOMECOMING WEEKEND	
						13 Chicken BBQ 1:00-4:00 p.m. Alumni games start at 6:00 p.m.
14	15 D Comment sheets mailed	16 E PSAT for Juniors (AM in auditorium) Spanish Club meets 10 th period (rm. 11)	17 F	18 A	19 B	20
21	22 C	23 D LIFETOUCH picture retakes (start at 8:00 a.m. in Auditorium)	24 E Board of Education 7:30 p.m. @ M.S.	25 CONFERENCE DAY NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS		27 Wayne County Antique Dealer's Antique Show & Sale 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
28 Daylight Savings Time Ends Wayne County Antique Dealer's Antique Show & Sale 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.	29 F	30 A Spanish Club meets 10 th period (rm. 11)	31 B			