

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

New Initiatives at the High School!... Last month in this space, you read about the D.E.A.R. initiative. On October 1st, at 8:27 a.m., everyone here was asked to Drop Everything And Read for 18 minutes. This is an update on the first few weeks of this program. The results from throughout the building are overwhelmingly positive. The students have been able to settle back with some reading material of their choosing during this time. During the month of October, students could read whatever they chose—*book, magazine, newspaper, textbook*. Beginning November 1st, students must select a book to read. The point of this program is to improve the ability of students to read and visualize the text they are reading. We have discussed this as a staff and the inability of students to form that mental picture without the aid of charts, pictures, and graphs in a textbook has been noted.

NEW DAILY SCHEDULE	
Forum	7:34
Period 1	7:46 – 8:27
New → DEAR Reading	8:27 – 8:45
Period 2	8:49 – 9:27
Period 3	9:31 – 10:09
Period 4	10:13 – 10:51
Period 5	10:55 – 11:33
Period 6	11:37 – 12:15
Period 7	12:19 – 12:57
Period 8	1:01 – 1:39
Period 9	1:43 – 2:22

So, please recycle your books! If you have books piled in the corner, the closet, or the attic that you would like to recirculate, please send them to the High School and we will offer them to the students. We want and will encourage students to select their own books, but just in case, we want to ensure that there is a sufficient supply of books from which the students can choose. The question of censorship arose the other day, and we are expecting that students will select a book that meets with parent approval. If not, that is an issue between the student and his or her parents.

A Second Initiative Coming Soon!

There has been a noticeable increase over the past two to three years in the verbal abuse between and among students. We witness and hear more of this language than ever before. We were fortunate to have Williamson graduate Lynn Langworthy Graves intern in our counseling office last year. I asked her to investigate avenues to address this problem, as well as for her perceptions of how our school has changed in the 5 years since she graduated. She commented, “I can’t believe how mean the

kids are to each other.” From the information she provided, I spoke to other schools about a program entitled “The 7 Habits of Effective Teens,” that is founded on the same principles as the book of a similar title by Steven Covey. In the process of this research, I was referred to a book by Hal Urban, entitled Life’s Greatest Lessons—Twenty Things I Want My Kids to Know. As I was reading this book, I felt it should be shared with the students. This was the germination of the idea to teach it to all of our students and to share the ideas with staff and parents. I want everybody to understand my intent to teach respect and self-respect and to promote it after teaching it. As the title implies, there are 20 chapters, including topics such as: we live by choice, not by chance; attitude is a choice, the most important one you will ever make; good people build their lives on a foundation of respect; goals are dreams with deadlines.

“A DOLLAR A DAY”
 Our High School raised \$1,953.17 for the American Red Cross Disaster Relief Fund. A check was presented to the director of the Wayne County Chapter of the American Red Cross on Monday, October 1st.
Thank you for your support!

I will introduce the book to 9th and 10th grade students, and then work with the English Department as they base a series of lessons on the chapters. The juniors and seniors will have a chance to work with it later in the year. Parents who want to learn more about this book and how we will use it to teach our children more about goal setting and respect will receive notice of an evening program that is being planned. I welcome your comments and questions as your own child comes home with this book. I encourage you to ask questions and to even read part (or all) of it yourself. It is not a long book (about 160 pages), it is easy reading, and it is full of helpful ideas and thoughts I find valuable as a parent.

Report Cards Are Coming! The first quarter of the year ends November 9th. The students should receive report cards in forum on Monday, November 19. I encourage you to call the Guidance Office if you have any questions. Speak to the teacher of a class where the performance is not as you would expect. **Parent-Teacher Conference Night is scheduled for Wednesday, December 5th.** Take advantage of that opportunity to speak to teachers about the specific issues of your child. Ask how grades are determined; how much emphasis is on tests vs. homework; does class participation enter into the grade and, if so, to what extent; was there a problem with work not being submitted after an absence; was attendance a factor; was there a project that was done poorly that counted as a major percentage of the grade.

FROM THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL...Mrs. Legler

Please reinforce with your son or daughter the importance of **attendance** at school. Students late to forum will be considered late to school and will face the consequence of detention that same day after school. Oversleeping is NOT a legal excuse for being late to school! Please make sure your student is on time.

Regular attendance to class is one of the most important aspects of a student's educational program. This ensures the effectiveness of the learning process and provides for an environment which is conducive to group and individual learning. Our most important responsibility at school is to provide a safe learning environment for all of our students and staff. The way we can provide that environment is by everyone sharing the responsibility.

Student Driving and Parking

We have **assigned parking spaces** to seniors at Williamson Senior High School. This year students were given their own space in the parking lot. They are to park in that specific spot every day. Please remember that parking is a privilege.

We also have had a number of auto safety concerns brought to our attention by residents. Please advise your son or daughter who is driving to exercise caution and safety at all times while on the road or in our parking lot. We have in the past and will continue to revoke parking privileges if there are infractions. After one warning, illegally parked vehicles will be towed at the owner's expense. Also, students who are late to school will have their parking privileges suspended. Remember that parking is a definite privilege.

FROM THE HEALTH OFFICE...Mrs. Showman, R.N.

Our fall **Blood Drive** is coming on Tuesday, November 27, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Staff, students and community members are welcome to donate. We are currently working with the Red Cross to extend the hours to 4 p.m. Right now I do not have a confirmation for this, but am very hopeful it will go through.

Winter Sports are starting on Monday, November 5th. Just a reminder to **ALL** students...If you have not handed in your required Health History forms, please do so **NOW!** These must be handed to me in order to try out for your sports team. Thank you.

I have started to do the 9th grade screenings this month. If you receive a letter in the mail for your student to be further evaluated by their health care provider for their vision, hearing or spinal checks, I ask you to take care of this promptly. And thank you for your cooperation.



The deadline for Ski Club payment and registration is Friday, November 9. You may ask for forms from Mr. Scott, Mrs. Osborn, or Mrs. Wilkinson.

FROM THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT...

The concert scheduled for November 6 has been cancelled.

The **FRUIT SALE** of oranges and grapefruit will be held from November 2nd-9th, with delivery December 18th. Both oranges and grapefruit will be sold in 2/5 bushel quantities. See any choir member to order.



The Senior High Band has been given the opportunity to perform with a number of other high school bands and the Empire Statesmen at the Blue Cross Arena on Sunday, November 11th, Veterans' Day. This is a wonderful opportunity for the band and school to get the Williamson name "out there." This show is being sponsored by the County of Monroe, WROC-TV 8, Entercom Radio and the Empire Statesmen. The event is being organized as a musical way to honor and express our thanks to those that have and are doing so much to help the victims of the September 11th terrorist attacks. It will be from 2:00 to 6:00

p.m. We will be responsible for about 10-15 minutes of music, and at the end a mass band with all group participants are to perform "GOD BLESS AMERICA." It should be quite a show.

A T T E N T I O N...
YOUNG AMERICAN WORKSHOP PARTICIPANTS AT WILLIAMSON
LOST AND FOUND ITEMS

Mrs. Fiegl reports the following items were left at Williamson Senior High School after the Young Americans Workshop last month. If any of these items belong to you, please call 589-9621 (Main Office), leave a message describing the item, and it will be set aside for pick up. Any items not claimed by November 15th will be donated to a charity.

white hooded, zippered sweat jacket, child size M
blue/white Thermos w/handle (Maplewood Nursing Home logo)
white brimmed plastic straw hat w/red & blue band
navy/green/burgundy plaid fleece pullover jacket—hand sewn
black Eddie Bauer backpack w/navy pants, red shirt & white shirt inside
gray Arizona nylon shorts, child size 16
black hooded sweatshirt, American Eagle size S
red long sleeve sweatshirt, Old Navy "Go Tigers" – size S
red felt brimmed hat
lime green sport digital watch
khaki zippered pant leg bottom
navy fleece vest w/black trim
teal tank top (size L 42-44)
long sleeve gray cotton T-shirt, child size M
clear plastic PTL sport water bottle

From the library ...

A RECIPE FOR READING

Preparation time: 15 minutes

Reading time: 1 hour to infinity

Ingredients:

- 1 Stack of books
- 1 Teenager
- 1 Library, Classroom, or Bookstore
- 1 Table

Directions:

1. Pick 3 or 4 books from the stack
2. Look at the covers
3. Read the book jacket
4. Open the book to the first chapter
5. Read the first 3 pages
6. Repeat for each book
7. Decide which book really grabs you
8. If none of them grabs your interest, repeat numbers 1-6
9. Repeat as many times as necessary until you find a book you really want to read

Nutritional Information Per Serving

Relaxation: 100% minimum daily requirement

Entertainment: 100% minimum daily requirement

Imagination: 100% minimum daily requirement

Intellectual stimulation: 100% minimum daily
requirement

Reading skills: 100% minimum daily requirement

Source: The American Library Association, 2001

Williamson Senior High School
November 2001

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
Yearbooks can be ordered for \$33.00, check payable to "The Log 2002" or cash. Please see Mrs. Ferraro.				1 C FALL SPORTS AWARDS 7:00 p.m. (auditorium)	2 D	3	
4	5 E	6 F ELECTION DAY	7 A	8 B	9 C End of 10-week marking period	10	
11 Veterans' Day	12 D	13 E	14 F Board of Education 7:30 p.m. @ M.S.	15 A	16 B National Honor Society Induction Ceremony 2:00 p.m.	17	
18	19 C Report cards will be distributed in forum	20 D	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; display: inline-block;"> <i>Thanksgiving Holiday Recess</i> – No School – </div>			23	24
25	26 E	27 F BLOOD DRIVE 10:00-4:00 (auditorium)	28 A Board of Education 7:30 p.m. @ M.S.	29 B	30 C		