



**WILLIAMSON CENTRAL SCHOOL
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April 11, 2003

The April 9th Board of Education Meeting included a presentation on the School Report Card data for Williamson by Director of Curriculum, Wendy Feeney. Over the past four years, the 8th Grade English and Math state assessments have shown a steady increase, while the Elementary School scores for English and Math have remained at approximately the same level. At this point, both buildings have 68% of their students scoring at Level 3 or 4 in English. In Math, the 4th Grade students have 86% scoring at Level 3 or 4, while the Middle School Math percentages at those levels is 69%. These scores are well above the state averages and averages for similar schools.

Under Old Business a short discussion of the budget focused on the proposed change in the tax equalization rate for the Town of Williamson. The rate will change from 97% to 93%, which will translate into a higher tax levy for the Town. While this change signals that properties are selling higher than their assessed value, it also means that the tax rate will show a slight increase. Factoring this in with some additional cuts, the proposed tax increase now stands at 8.9%. The budget will be adopted by the Board at the April 23rd Meeting. Before this adoption, the Superintendent and Business Executive will again try to cut additional dollars from the proposed budget.

Under New Business, several positions were abolished in order to reduce the budget for 2003-04. They included 3.5 teaching positions, 6 support staff positions, 3 curriculum coordinator positions, and 4 extra-curricular positions. Also under New Business, the Girls' Softball Team Trip to Myrtle Beach was approved for the Spring Break week and 13 policies underwent first readings. Many of these policies included minor changes necessary because of recent laws being enacted.

After a review of three (3) proposed textbooks by Vice-President, William Herbert, the books were approved. They include a new Music series for Grades K-4, an Economics textbook for Grade 12 and a Biology textbook for use in the AP Biology classes.