Across the Board

March 19, 2012

The Williamson County Board of Education adopted budgets for the 2012-13 school year during its regular monthly meeting March 19. The General Purpose Budget, or operating budget, is $245,978,265; the Central Cafeteria Fund is $10,096,797; the Extended School Program Fund is $1,648,474; and the 2012-13 Capital Outlay request is $5,762,050. The budgets will be presented to the Budget and Education committees of the Williamson County Commission before being presented to the full Commission.

Students from across the district were honored with Student Spotlights during the meeting. Centennial High’s Parker Smith is the TSSAA State Wrestling Champion in the 152 weight class. His coach is Matthew Becker. Franklin High has two TSSAA State Wrestling Champions including Austin Woods in the 138 weight class and John Shrader in the 182 weight class. Their coach is Charles Gillespie. Independence High has three 2012 TSSAA State Wrestling Champions including Rachel Savage in the 112 weight class, Kendall Barnett in the 130 weight class and McCoy Newberg in the 170 weight class. Their coach is Jared Grindstaff.

Brentwood and Ravenwood high schools earned first place honors in the Tennessee High School Press Association competition. Brentwood won for Best Television Station and Best Sports Team. In addition, Zach Madell, Grayson Propst, Danielle Wilson and Josh Jirjis won for Best Short Feature and Zach Driver and John Anderson won for Best News Story. Their teacher is Ronnie Adcock. Ravenwood’s Joshua Beene won for Best Videographer and Tate Janasek, Lindsey Kirkland and John Michael Sisk won for Best Public Service Announcement. Their teacher is Laura Faber.

In speech, debate and acting competitions, Independence High’s Nick Lotz won the American Legion Oratorical State Competition. His teacher is Jackie Zigelsky. Brentwood High’s Michael Zoorob won the Tennessee National Forensic League Student of the Year. His coach is Harriet Medlin. Ravenwood High won the National Forensics League’s Leading Chapter Award. Kelly Duyn is the Ravenwood coach. Centennial High’s Rachel Woods will be one of two Tennessee students competing in the National Shakespeare Competition after winning the Regional Branch competition for the second year in a row. Kesha Tant is her teacher.

Ravenwood’s Danielle Maeng and Seth Phillips were named to the National Honor Band of America. Their band director is Mark Kinzer.

In Staff Spotlights, Centennial High’s Heather Hayes has been named the Tennessee Regional High School Teacher of the Year. Brentwood High’s Harriet Medlin received the Martha McClendon 2012 Educator of the Year Award from the Tennessee High School Speech and Drama League.

In the Superintendent’s Report, Dr. Mike Looney reminded the Board that all juniors will be taking the ACT at their schools on Tuesday. He also shared results of the Pride Survey which is voluntarily taken by fourth, seventh, ninth and eleventh grade students regarding drug
and alcohol use. He reported that students taking the survey continue to be below the national average in substance use.

In her report, Board Chairman Anderson congratulated the student artists with art displayed at the Frist and their teachers. In addition, she thanked the Sunset Middle strings group that performed prior to the Board meeting. The group’s director is Craig Madole.

In New Business, the Board:

- Approved two policies on first reading including Policy Development and Bullying.
- Approved two 2011-2012 budget amendments to the General Purpose School Fund including a resolution for $13,000 for a United Way grant to pay for after school tutoring and a resolution for $450,000 for gasoline due to increased costs.
- Adopted textbooks in art, music, drama, theater arts, career and technical, spelling, literature, computer science and driver’s education. Textbooks will not be purchases in all of these areas.

In other business, the Board:

- Approved one policy on second reading, Accelerated and Advanced Credit.
- Approved recommended field trip fee requests.
- Approved family tuition charges for 2012-2013. The employee rate is $3,913 and $5,461 for families moving into the district who have not established residency within the county but who will within the semester/year.
- Approved an increase in tuition for children in the early childhood education careers lab to $180 for infants and $160 for toddler and pre-school children. These labs are at Centennial, Franklin, Independence and Summit.
- Approved middle school summer school fees for 2012 for students who fail one or more core courses and fall below the seventieth percentile on the TCAP assessment for the respective course. Tuition is $250 per student with no charge for students who receive free or reduced lunch. Summer school will be held at Brentwood, Heritage and Fairview middle schools.
- Approved the hiring pay rate for child nutrition services assistant, a new position.

Each school principal has a copy of the Board packet information.

The next regular meeting of the WCBE will be Monday, April 16, 2012, at 6:30 p.m. in the Auditorium of the Administrative Complex.