A General Purpose Budget of $273,014,314 for the 2014-15 school year was approved by the Williamson County Board of Education at its regular meeting March 24, 2014. The Board also approved a Central Cafeteria Budget of $11,336,766; an Extended School Program Budget of $3,235,366; and a Capital Outlay request of $13,273,737. The budgets will be reviewed by the Williamson County Commission Budget and Education committees before being presented to the full County Commission at its July 14 meeting.

Students and staff were honored by the Board during the meeting. Williamson County students brought home numerous first place honors from the Tennessee High School Press Association competition including Brentwood’s Mary Margaret Davis, Thomas Wolf and Cole Hubbard for Best Online Video; Apakorn Burapharat, Ben Sherrill and Sami Edgerton for Best PSA; and Hamza Khalid, Jake Fisher, Ben Sherrill, Apakorn Burapharat, Hannah Feldhacker, Conner Holmes, Andrew Hughes, Stephen Hart, Dakota Payne and Katie Hart for Best Sports Coverage. Their teacher is Ronnie Adcock. WBHS-9 was also awarded TV Station of the Year.

Centennial’s Josh Katina, Patrick Mills and Caleb Simons won Best Music Video; Josh Katina won Best Audio; and Milan Zanussi and Patrick Mills won Best Commercial. Their teacher is Dawn Marek.

Ravenwood’s Skylar Rabon won for Short Feature and Ethan Carlson won for Best Videographer. Their teacher is Laura Faber.

In the Tennessee Technology Student Association competition, Page High’s Juhi Panthak, Isaac Rizzo, Michael Lee and Logan Harvey won for Music Production; Chase Moon, Ben Wilt, Carson Stafford, Camron Midgette, Lillian Powell and Ben Weaver won for Manufacturing Prototype; Chase Moon for Flight; Braden Wells, Austin Buffalo, Bow Shafer, Grant Santilli, Daniel Sokol, Riley Cochrane, Wilson Cochrane, Ashley Jones and Ben Weaver for Architectural Renovation; and Wilson Cochrane and Brock Bolton for Transportation Modeling. Their teachers are Beth Foreman and Jimmy Baker. Fairview High’s Blake McKinney was elected Sergeant-at-Arms for the 2014-15 school year. His teacher is Kevin Sizemore

Ravenwood’s Christopher Nicastro received First Place in the Tennessee North American Computational Linguistics Olympiad. He is one of two students representing TN at the International Linguistics Olympiad. His teacher is Anna Crombie. Ravenwood’s Zach Glick, Simon Lowen, Jordan Widjaja and Sean Yao won First Place at the MTSU Linguistics Olympiad. Their teacher is Anna Crombie.

In athletics, four wrestlers brought home first place trophies from the TSSAA State Wrestling Tournament. Brentwood’s Luke Hamilton won in the AAA-145 pound category. His coach is Joe Blair. Franklin’s Patrick Dooley won the AAA-160 pound category. His coach is Frank Barbrie. Independence High’s Dillan Friesner won in the AAA-106 pound category. His coach is Jared Grindstaff. Ravenwood’s Taylor Warren won the AAA-152 pound category. His coach is Josh Peck.
Three staff members were also recognized by the Board. Brentwood High’s TV Media Production teacher Ronnie Adcock was named the Tennessee High School Press Association Media Advisor of the Year. Page High Computer Drafting teacher Beth Foreman was named the Tennessee Technology Student Association Advisor of the Year. ELL teacher Tiffany Wilson-Mobley was named the TNESOL Teacher of the Year. She works with Fairview elementary, middle and high schools. Ravenwood’s Kristi Neuroth was named 2014 Tennessee Geography Teacher of the Year.

In the Superintendent’s Report, Dr. Looney shared with the group that he will be requesting the district use one unused inclement weather day and dismiss one day early this year. That means the last day for students will be a half day on Wednesday, May 21. The Board will approve that request at its April meeting. In addition, Dr. Looney reminded the Board that the Williamson County Schools Fine Arts Festival is scheduled for Friday and Saturday of this week. Tickets are still available for the Friday night concert.

In the Board Chairman’s Report, Pat Anderson introduced Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources Rebecca Owens. She also thanked high school students from across the district for their participation in a recent Habitat for Humanity home build.

The Board established open zoned schools for the 2014-15 school year. The application is online today at http://schools.wcs.edu/infocus/InFocus1314/Issue_15/open-zoned.htm Schools include:

- Crockett Elementary School up to 25 (total) students from any WCS school with first priority given to students from Lipscomb Elementary School.
- Edmondson Elementary School up to 25 (total) students from Lipscomb Elementary School.
- Fairview Elementary up to 25 (total) from any WCS school.
- Grassland Elementary up to 25 (total) students from any WCS school with first priority given to students from Scales Elementary.
- Trinity Elementary up to 25 (total) students from any WCS school with first priority given to students from Clovercroft and College Grove elementary schools.
- Westwood Elementary up to 25 (total) students from any WCS school.
- Winstead Elementary up to 25 (total) students from any WCS school with first priority given to students from Oak View Elementary.
- Fairview Middle School up to 25 (total) students from any WCS school.
- Grassland Middle School up to 25 (total) students from Brentwood Middle School who are residents of the geographic area rezoned 11/13/13 from Lipscomb Elementary School to Walnut Grove Elementary School.
- Heritage Middle School up to 25 (total) students from any WCS school with first priority given to students from Spring Station Middle School.
- Fairview High School up to 25 (total) students from any WCS school.
- Independence High School up to 25 (total) students from any WCS school.
- Page High School up to 25 (total) students from any WCS school with first priority given to students from Ravenwood High School.
• Summit High School to residents of the geographic area rezoned 11/13/13 from Spring Station and Summit to Heritage Middle and Independence and 25 (total) students from any WCS school.

In addition, the Board determined zoning parameters for Mill Creek Elementary, Mill Creek Middle and Nolensville High. The schools are scheduled to open in the fall of 2016. The group instructed staff to:

• Plan for opening Nolensville High with freshmen and sophomores only.
• Establish zones for the new schools with growth in mind.
• Plan to minimize future rezoning in the area, with the zoning plan to last for three to five years.
• Plan for efficient bus routes lasting less than one hour each way.
• Do not base zoning on city limit lines or zip codes.

In New Business, the Board:

• Approved a new name and program design for Middle College High School. The new name is Renaissance High.
• Approved the superintendent evaluation instrument for 2014-15.

In other business, the Board:

• Approved recommended field trip fee requests.
• Approved four policies on second reading including School Attendance Areas, Zoning and Nonresident Students; Graduation Requirements; Credit Requirements for Graduation; and deleting Professional Development Opportunities.
• Approved a request for a construction easement by the City of Thompson’s Station.

Board packet information can be found on the school district’s website www.wcs.edu. Select School Board and then Minutes and Agendas. The next regular meeting of the WCBE will be Monday, April 21, 2014, at 6:30 p.m. in the Auditorium of the Administrative Complex.