Students and staff shared the spotlight during the October 15, 2012, Williamson County Board of Education meeting. Ravenwood High’s Paul Drexler was named one of two boys in Tennessee to attend Boys Nation, and Ravenwood’s Charlene Hong was named one of two girls in Tennessee to attend Girls Nation. Also from Ravenwood, Ross Hildabrand won the Boys State Oratory Contest.

Students from four high schools earned All State Choir honors. Centennial’s Molly Wells, Abigail Edwards, Rachel Woods, Morganne Best and Christian Lloyd were named to the choir. Their teacher is Mindy Hoover. Franklin High’s Haley Johnston, Hallie Long, Jordan Newell, Ashley Nite and Hannah Cavender earned All State honors. Their teacher is Cynthia Fehrman. Ravenwood’s Rue Reynolds, Melissa Danly, Jenna Nam, Collin Schey, Ryan O’Leary, John Seale and Emily Whitlow were named to the All State choir. Their teacher is Terri Godfrey. Summit High’s Savannah Benjamin earned All State honors. Her teacher is Jenna Elsberry.

In staff recognition, Communications Specialist Cory Mason has earned the 35 Under 35 award for 2012 by the National School Public Relations Association for demonstrating excellence and leadership early in his school public relations career.

In the Superintendent’s Report, Dr. Mike Looney called on Assistant Superintendent of Teaching, Learning and Assessment Tim Gaddis who gave updates on benchmark testing and the Parent Portal. In addition, Looney later shared with the Board that Earl Swensson Associates has been selected as the architectural firm to create the design work for two of the three theatre projects. The scope for the Brentwood High project has changed, so a separate design will be needed.

In her report, Board Chairman Pat Anderson congratulated Ravenwood High for being a SCORE finalist, and she reminded the Board that members will have a training session on November 3. In addition, she thanked Board member Terry Leve for his service to Williamson County Schools. Leve will be moving to Colorado with his family and is resigning his seat on the Board.

In New Business, the Board:

- Approved two polices on first reading including Evaluation and Compulsory Attendance Age

- Approved two budget resolutions including one for $347,885 to pay for six additional teachers with an immediate need at Hunters Bend Elementary and two special education teachers at Winstead Elementary. The other resolution was to be used for the restructure of the administration of the Student Support Services Department.

- Approved three intent to fund resolutions including one for $22,250,000 to meet the current needs outlined in the five year capital plan; a resolution for $6,041,050 for
the yearly technology and maintenance needs and replacement buses; and a resolution for $2,940,000 for major paving and roofing projects. All resolutions must be approved by the County Commission to move forward.

- Approved three intra-category transfers including one for $175,000 to finalize the purchase of the land for the northeast area high school and K-8 school; a resolution for $100,000 to replace the gym floor at Hillsboro; and a resolution to pay for two special ed teachers and one assistant instead of hiring three interpreters.

- Approved Board norms.

In other business, the Board:

- Approved three policies on second reading including School Board Norms, School Calendar and Adult Education Program
- Approved recommended field trip fee requests.
- Approved a budget timeline for the 2013-14 budget.

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

The next regular meeting of the WCBE will be Monday, November 26, 2012, at 6:30 p.m. in the Auditorium of the Administrative Complex.