Marisa Keidel and Maxx Williams, juniors at WHS, are Waconia High School's 2011 ExCEL Award candidates.

Marisa Keidel has been active in dance team and softball, earning letters in both sports. She has earned All-Conference Honors in dance, as well as Academic All-Conference honors in dance. On the fine arts side, Keidel has participated in band and pep band. She demonstrates her excellence in education and leadership by being an active member of the National Honor Society, Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (chair of Winterfest), America Reads, Peer Tutoring, Peer Mentors, as well as being on the Waconia High School 'A' honor roll. In her "spare time", Marisa volunteers at many different organizations/functions including: Waconia's Relay for Life, the Waconia Triathlon, working at her church nursery, serving as a coach for youth dance camps, working at Feed My Starving Children and serving as a volunteer at Ridgeview Medical Center. Marisa's parents are Susan and Daniel Keidel.

Maxx Williams has been active in football and hockey where he has earned letters in each sport, as well as academic honors. As a junior, he was named to the Associated Press All-State First Football Team, he earned All-Conference honors in football, he received the WCC Offensive Player of the Year Award and was also named to the KARE 11 All-Metro Team. He demonstrates his excellence in education and leadership by being an active member of the Conservation Club and the Dodgeball Club team, as well as being on the Waconia High School 'B' honor roll. He also volunteers at many different organizations/functions including: Toys for Tots, serving as a youth coach in football and hockey and offering services at a variety of youth football, hockey and baseball camps. His parents are Rochele and Brian Williams.