Dr. J. Richard Willis is the father of a eighth-grader who is making him learn the seemingly non-existent rules of lacrosse, an seventh-grade girl who thinks everything in life needs more glitter, and a third-grader who is does not understand how to slow down. He enjoys good food, helping his kids learn math (pre-pandemic), and sleeping whenever his family lets him.

To support his love for his family and good food, Richard is the Vice President for Engineering, Research, & Technology for the National Asphalt Pavement Association where he assists the asphalt industry with issues related to recycled materials in asphalt mixtures, pavement vehicle interaction, pavement design and environmental product declarations. Just like a good mix design, he tries to promote balance in all areas of life. He has a deep passion for education and tries to ensure that people remember the message even if they forget the man.