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2010 Tully Graduate Cameron Stanton

Staff Sergeant Stanton serves in the US Army and is based in Fort Campbell, Kentucky. He has served in Afghanistan and Iraq and continues to serve our country.

Thank you for your service Staff Sergeant Stanton!

Drama Club

On March 3rd & 4th, Tully Drama Club's performance of *Little Shop of Horrors* hit the stage!

This production was Directed/Choreographed/ Music Directed by Erin Reppenhagen, the set was built by Steven J. Bartleson, and the Pit Band was directed by Pat Votra, which featured Jackie Brown on piano and Michael Gordona on trumpet. Ryan Gordona played the mild-mannered florist assistant, Seymour Krelborn, who swept audiences away with his voice, acting, and his heroic attempt at protecting the world from man-eating plants. Liz Ferguson played Audrey, who dreams of a better life away from Skid Row. Ferguson is a natural actress and portrayed the role with a perfect combination of sweetness and strength. Gerrit Van Dyne was cast as Mr. Mushnik, the owner of the flower shop, and surprised everyone with his amazing voice! Ryan Huggins played the tough biker-dentist, Orin Scrivello D.D.S. and made audiences laugh with his perfect comedic timing and a note that seemed like he could have held for hours. The villain was the cunning and manipulative plant Audrey II, who was voiced by Peyton Wolf and powered by Maddy Wiers. The five urchin girls were the narrators and backbone of the entire show with their close harmonies and synchronized choreography. Lizzy Caron, Danah Earley, Lilly Fowler-Conner, Marissa Scalza, & Natalie Slazik all gave the urchins the sass needed when dealing with such an array of characters. The ensemble was a crucial part of this production as well, especially when it came to the plants taking over the world! The entire cast, crew, and pit band should be proud of the work that was put into this show!

Just remember...Don't Feed the Plants!



School Budget Presentations

Stay tuned for school budget road shows. We are working on scheduling several presentations at various locations in the community. Notices will be posted in the Knight Insight May issue. Check the school website for changes and/or updates or call the district office 696-6204.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Edward Kupiec

For 25 years, the wooden Dream Builders playground at Tully Elementary has provided hundreds of children a place to play and make memories. Built in 1992 with the help of parents, students, and community volunteers, with financial support from several businesses and families, the playground has served the Tully community well. Unfortunately, time has taken its toll on the structure and we have reached a crossroads. The playground structure will need to be taken down

in the near future. Bee stings and splinters are a regular occurrence. There are new safety regulations that have gone into effect since the playground was installed and the chemicals that were used to treat the wood are considered unsafe. As portions of the playground break down, they must be removed; we are not able to repair them. The current playground situation is not unique to Tully. Across the state, similar playgrounds have already been removed or will be removed in the very near future.

Since the playground must eventually be removed, the question that the District has wrestled with is how to replace it and what to replace it with. Replacing a playground with something of similar size is expensive. The District understands the many benefits that a quality playground provides to the development of our students. For this reason, a new playground has been included as an alternate bid item for the 2018 Capital Project. If bids for the different aspects of the project come in on budget, the playground will be replaced in the summer of 2018. District architects are already working on designs in anticipation of this taking place.

The PTO is also aware of the need for a new playground and have explored options to provide their own support. A few parents from PTO will join me on some visits to local schools to look at their playgrounds. Staff have been surveyed for their opinions and our physical education teachers have contributed their expertise and suggestions. Most importantly, the target audience, our students, will also provide input into the design options provided by the architects as we move farther along in the process.

The Dream Builders playground is not just a piece of wood, it is a part of the identity of not only the elementary school, but also of the Tully community. We are keenly aware of both the significant investment the community placed into the installation of the playground and its sentimental value to many current, and former, students and parents. It is vital that the community has input into its design and replacement.

To that end, I would like to invite you to a community forum regarding the playground on Wednesday, April 12, 2017 at 6:00 PM in the Tully Elementary School Auditorium before the PTO meeting at 7:00 PM. At this forum, you will have the opportunity to; learn more about the reasons the playground must be replaced, learn about the timeline for replacement, hear initial concept ideas, provide your input on the playground, and have questions answered. Thank you for your past support of the playgrounds here and I look forward to entering into this new chapter at TES with you. I hope to see you on the 12th!

Sincerely,

Mr. Edward Kupiec, ES Principal

Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten screening will be in June of this year. Please register your child for school if he or she will turn 5 before December 1, 2017.

If you have not already done so, please complete a census form for your children, birth to 5 years. Kindergarten registration packets, including information about our kindergarten screening process, will be mailed out in mid-May.

Please don't hesitate to contact the elementary office at 696-6213, if you have specific questions about the kindergarten screening process.

Elementary School Students Collaborate on Yearbook



Sixth grade students are discovering how much is involved in the creation of a yearbook. Nine students and two advisors meet regularly to collaborate on the 2016-2017 Tully Elementary School yearbook. The officers of the club (president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer) are elected and have specific responsibilities. All members of the club learn the importance of setting a meeting agenda, recording minutes, arriving at decisions through consensus, and meeting deadlines. Meeting after-school during activity period allows the opportunity to develop a sales and advertising plan, use software to design the pages, and discuss the progress of the yearbook. "It is fun and has taught me things that I will use in my adult life," explains Matthew, the president of the club. The goal of the club is to publish a yearbook that provides all students with "flashbacks and memories of the good times shared at Tully Elementary School," adds Michael, a member of the club. The group looks forward to distributing the yearbook in June.

Bringing Haudenosaunee Culture to Tully



Fourth grade students learned more about the culture from four students of the Onondaga Nation: Logan Booth, Arrow Booth, Ellie Booth and Rhiannon Abrams. Their goal is to educate others on their culture, while developing deeper appreciation. We were educated on many of the everyday aspects of their culture, as well as some of the intricate details of ceremony and religion. Our fourth grade students were delighted to be able to make this community connection. It was especially fun to participate in some traditional circle and social dances, while Arrow led with music. We are hopeful this will become an annual event for our fourth graders.

Maker Monday

"Maker Monday" has been put into place during activity period at Tully Elementary School. Mrs. Meldrim (LMS) and Mrs. Fowler-Conner (fourth grade teacher) will be hosting "maker" activities in the library for students on a rotating basis. The first rotation included students in grades 3 and 4. The interest was great, but at this point there is a limit of 25 students. Maker Monday is a time for students to experience an environment aimed at developing skills in creating, designing, thinking critically, problem solving and so much more. Students have choice in the activities they participate in. It is a time for them to think about their personal interests. Choices include: a marshmallow challenge, electronic snap circuitry, Little Bits circuitry, building marble runs, duct tape creations, and many other options. The various activities offered will change on a regular basis.



We Are Engineers!

First grade students are learning that engineers problem solve, are determined and creative, and collaborate with others.



Students engineered structures out of marshmallows, tooth picks and gum drops to discover which materials were best for building a solid structure. Students also worked to align several dominoes in such a way that when knocked over they had enough force to move a toy car or ball. It was very difficult to keep all of those dominoes in place! In February, first graders became inventors for the day by using recycled materials and objects found in the classroom. Students created a wide range of inventions, from a 'Bag Thing-A-Ma-Jig' to a "Bird Playground." Here are some things that students said they discovered throughout these activities: "The gumdrops work better because they are stronger than the marshmallows." "I think it works better if the dominoes are not too close and not too far." "I made a new washing machine and a special key that turns it on!"

WINTER SPORTS RECAP

Tully Volleyball dominated the OHSL Patriot league winning another league championship title and is the Class C Sectional Champions for the second year in a row and has gone back to back years undefeated! Congrats to Denise Abbott and the girls for their dominance in Section 3 volleyball over the past 2 years!

Girls Basketball was OHSL Patriot League Champions and won 13 games this winter! Congrats to Jeff Russell and the team on a great winter season!

Boys Indoor Track won the small school Sectional Championship this winter as well as both the Boys and Girls won the OHSL League Meet this winter! Congrats to Jim and Emily Paccia for another great indoor season!

Tully Wrestling has combined with Onondaga in wrestling. We only have 1 wrestler, Dalton Currie, who had a great season. Dalton won 17 matches this winter and qualified for Sectionals in early February at the 145lb weight class. Congrats to Dalton on a great winter!

Boys Basketball has won 20 games this winter. They won 3 sectional games (Tully beat Sauquoit Valley, Herkimer and Weedsport) to date! A huge congratulations to Ryan Dando for this continued success with our basketball program and to the team for another great winter! The Tully Varsity Boys Basketball team competed in the Class C Sectional Finals on Sunday March 5, 2017 vs Cooperstown. The game took place in the SRC Arena on the OCC Campus. This is the second year in a row Tully faced Cooperstown for the Class C crown. It was a fantastic match up of two very talented, well coached teams. The Black Knights lost by 11 points.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Mary Ann Murphy

Students in the Junior Senior High School have been working on their schedules for next year with their counselors. Decisions on courses for the next year need to be made for each student based on his or her goals, interests, college and career aspirations, etc. While all students take courses and electives that will allow them to meet graduation requirements, students will also have the opportunity to take coursework at an increased level of rigor in several curricular areas. Teachers make course recommendations for the next school year based on aptitude and academic performance to date. While students' and parents' desires are always taken into consideration, it is vitally important that students are placed appropriately. Colleges will look not only at the level of course rigor on a transcript, but also how the student performs at that level. Teachers work with students over the course of the school year and get to know them as learners. As they work to prepare students for growth and success in their content area, they also evaluate students' potential for success at an increased level of rigor and individual responsibility. It is very important for teachers, students, school counselors, and parents to be in sync with one another when making such important decisions.

When students meet with their counselors, teacher recommendations are reviewed. Students who participate in honors, accelerated, Advanced Placement (AP), and college courses will be required to complete more work independently; engage in a higher level of critical thinking and problem solving; and be willing to write not only more frequently, but also longer pieces in styles that are new and/or unfamiliar. There may be additional requirements such as labs, research projects, standardized tests, and lengthy writing assignments. Colleges offering courses at our school may require their own prerequisites and/or testing requirements that are beyond our control. In short, students who are willing to take intellectual risks, are challenged by what they're learning, and who can successfully manage the increased expectations are the students who often benefit most from these higher-level classes.

School counselors work hard to communicate course selections with students and their parents through meetings or having parents sign off on course selections. Counselors are always happy to meet with parents at any time. Those appointments can be arranged by contacting the Counseling and Career Center at 315-696-6240.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Mary Ann Murphy, JSHS Principal

Quebec 2017



Forty eighth graders enjoyed four days in Quebec City in January with the Junior High International Club over the long weekend. Students enjoyed dog sledding, ice fishing, tubing at Valcartiers, attending a military reenactment of the Battle of the Plains of Abraham, ate a traditional Québécois meal, danced, made maple butter, had a taffy pull in a "sugar shack," participated in an improv show, visited the Sainte Anne de Beaupré Basilica, and the Hôtel de Glace Ice Hotel, enjoyed spectacular sunny views of the Saint Lawrence River, walked over the suspension bridge high over Montmorency Falls, and enjoyed some shopping time in Old Quebec as well as at the Galeries de la Capitale Mall. Our Tully students were awesome, embracing each unique cultural and educational experience, and our chaperons were tireless! Thank you to chaperons Mr. Jim Hendricks, Mrs. Mary-Ann Murray, Mr. Bill Hardy, and to the Tully Board of Education, Tully Administration, Teachers & Staff, Tully Parents, Jumpstreet Tours and Wade Tours bus driver Michael Jackson (really)!



SENIOR SPOTLIGHT: Jacob M. Ganley

Family: Robert-Dad, Martha-Mom, Olivia-Sister

What has been the best part of your high school career and why? The best part of my high school career has been my senior year. I get to spend the morning at Lime Hollow Nature Center as part of the New Visions Environmental Program. Getting into this program has allowed me further knowledge of the outdoors through volunteering and field trips.

What have you learned by the activities you have participated in outside of school? Anyone who knows me knows you can usually find me on the slopes or on my bike. I have always been fascinated with the outdoors, particularly the recreational side of it. I plan to pursue it as a career.

What is your proudest moment in high school so far? The proudest moment was getting on the High Honor Roll for the first time. I have always struggled with my grades and achieving the High Honor Roll proved that I could do something I never would have thought I could.

What are your plans after high school? After high school I plan to attend SUNY Adirondack for Adventure Sports and Hospitality.

What do you hope to achieve by the time you're 30 years old? When I am 30 years old, I hope to have traveled and seen the world. I hope to be living in the woods and have a job I enjoy going to everyday.

If you could invite two or three people to dinner, who would they be and what would you talk about? I would invite Charles Darwin, Teddy Roosevelt and Jerry Garcia. We would talk about the problems of the world like climate change and overpopulation. I would also like to talk to them about what life was like for them.

What challenges have you faced and how have you overcome them? The greatest challenge I have faced is figuring out who I want to be. I feel like high school divides people and creates fake personalities. If high school has taught me anything, it is to be yourself. People will respect you better later in life.

Who's your hero and why? To be honest, I do not have a hero. I believe heroes are the people who go out of their way to make life better for other people.

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT: Jade E. Hendricks

Family: Mother-Cristine, Father-Jim, Sister- Zoe, Brothers- Zeke and Tristan

What has been the best part of your high school career and why? The best part of my high school career has been the opportunity for me to go to the Physical Therapy Professions Program through BOCES. This program has opened many doors for me. I enjoy being able to get out of Tully for half a day, meet

new people, and take classes that focus on my intended career.

What have you learned by the activities you have participated in outside of school? I have learned how to be a good leader, friend and community member.

What is your proudest moment in high school so far? My proudest moment of high school was receiving the Clarkson University High School Leadership Award.

What are your plans after high school? I plan to go to college to become a Physical Therapist.

What do you hope to achieve by the time you're 30 years old? By the time I am 30, I hope to be a certified Physical Therapist.

If you could invite two or three people to dinner, who would they be and what would you talk about? I would invite my grandparents from Texas to dinner. As they get older, it gets harder to be so far away from them. We would catch up and spend time together.

What challenges have you faced and how have you overcome them? Although I really enjoy BOCES, I was faced with the challenge of meeting new friends and leaving my current friends at Tully. I was able to overcome this by keeping an open mind and being positive.

Who's your hero and why? My hero is my mom because she inspires me every day. My mom is the most caring person I know and I aspire to be just like her when I am older. She always goes above and beyond for others. I am glad that the apple doesn't fall far from that tree.

Faculty Spotlight

Name: Kelly Bovi, Social Studies Teacher

Family/Pets: Husband, Kevin; Mom, Cecelia; Sister, Kathy; Brother, Pat; two Nieces, Nikki and Emily, and two Nephews, Jake and Eric. No pets or children.

What you are known for: High kicks, jolly rancher questions, writing in all capital letters

One thing you want people to know about you: I love all things 80s - Music, movies, games, gadgets. I'll leave the Rave hairspray behind, though.

What has been the best part of your experience at Tully Central School District? The personal support of my co-workers and administrators as well as how much the students go out of their way to show their appreciation for me. It is nice when former students "stop by" just to say hello.

Other than being involved in the school district, what other hobbies and activities do you have or participate in? I love to travel (domestic and international), spend time with my family, socialize with friends, cheer on the 'Cuse and garden. I'm starting to get a green thumb, but it is pale green at this point. My husband also tries to get me to go golfing with him, but I need too many mulligans.

Who/ What is your biggest inspiration? Both of my parents were teachers and instilled in me many values including the importance of an education.

Favorite Quote: "Attitudes are contagious. Is yours worth catching?" (poster in my room)

From the Desk of the Superintendent



On April 4th, our Board of Education will adopt a proposed 2017-18 school budget. Built into this proposed budget is funding to support two pre-k classrooms at our elementary school and funding to address deferred equipment needs. This proposed budget also reduces the school district's reliance on fund balance, and keeps the local tax levy increase below 2%.

Currently, there are no community based pre-school programs in Tully. Additionally, over the past few years we have noticed an increase in the number of students entering kindergarten with no pre-school experience. A school based pre-k program would fill this pre-school void, and it would provide Tully students with the same kind of early educational opportunities that exist in most other school communities in the Central New York area. If approved during the annual budget vote on May 16th, our proposed 2017-18 school budget will allow us to create two, full-day pre-k classrooms at our elementary school. These two pre-k classrooms could accommodate up to 18 students in each classroom. Given current student enrollment at Tully Elementary School, we would be able to introduce these two pre-k classrooms without increasing staffing levels.

Regarding deferred equipment needs, our proposed 2017-18 school budget includes funding for musical equipment and for classroom furniture. It has been more than five years since the District has purchased new musical instruments. Additionally, we have purchased very little classroom furniture over the past five years. In order to avoid large spikes in equipment expenses, schools typically update musical equipment and classroom furniture a little at a time, on an annual basis. We have fallen behind in this process, so we are trying to address these deferred equipment needs within the proposed 2017-18 school budget.

During each of the past three school years, our school district has experienced budgeted revenue shortfalls. Because of this, during this period of time, we have been allocating fund balance (savings) to close the gap between budgeted revenue and budgeted expenses. In 2014-15, fund balance (savings) accounted for approximately 6% of budgeted revenue. Since then use of fund balance has been reduced, to the point where in our proposed 2017-18 school budget fund balance accounts for approximately 2% of budgeted revenue.

Finally, our proposed 2017-18 school budget calls for a local tax levy increase of less than 2%. We anticipate that our State Aid increase will be less than 1%. Since our proposed 2017-18 school budget is also flat from year to year, any increase in revenue (whether from the local tax levy or from State Aid) would reduce our budget gap, so that it falls below 2%.

Please note, our annual Public Budget Hearing is scheduled for Tuesday, May 9th, beginning at 6:00 pm, in the JSHS library. The Public Budget Hearing is an opportunity for members of our community to learn more about our proposed 2017-18 school budget, and to ask questions regarding this proposed budget.

Additionally, you may contact me directly if you would like (696-6204 or rhughes@tullyschools.org).

Robert Hughes, Superintendent of Schools

Nominating Petitions Available

Two terms of office on the Tully Central School District Board of Education will expire on June 30, 2017. Each winner will be elected for three year terms from July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2020 at the annual school district election to be held on May 16, 2017. Board of Education vacancies are not considered to be separate specific offices. Each candidate is considered for a vacant seat on the Board of Education as a whole. Candidates may be nominated only by petition. Each nominating petition must be filed with the School District Clerk, Tully Central School District Offices, 20 State St, Tully, NY 13159 no later than 5:00 pm on April 17, 2017. Each nominating petition must state the name and residence of the candidate and be signed by at least 25 qualified voters of the school district. Each person signing must also state his or her residence. It is good practice to obtain more than 25 signatures. Under the law a qualified voter is one who is entitled to vote at a school district election. To be entitled to vote a person must meet these three qualifications; A citizen of the United States; At least 18 years of age; A resident of the school district for a period of at least 30 days prior to the election. If you would like a nominating petition, please contact the district office at (315) 696-6204 or email mfisher@tullyschools.org

BOARD of EDUCATION

MEETING DATES

Location: JSHS Library

Time: 6:00 pm

Dates, time and location subject to change and additional special meetings to be scheduled on an as needed basis. Check the school website for updates:

www.tullyschools.org

April 4	Tuesday
April 24	Monday
May 9	Tuesday
May 16	Tuesday
June 20	Tuesday



Board Members

**Term expires June 30 of year listed*

2019	Mr. Mark Drumm , President (315) 696-5958
2017	Mr. James Bertolo , Vice President (315) 696-8786
2019	Mrs. Denise Cardamone (315) 696-5599
2018	Mrs. Carrie Edinger (315) 696-0106
2017	Mr. Steven Pierce (315) 575-0728
2018	Mr. Matthew VanBeveren (315) 696-5745
2018	Mr. Edward Wortley, II (315) 696-8609

2017-2018 Census Data

We are currently taking census data for the 2017-2018 school year. If you recently moved into the district and have children entering school, grades K-12, please call the elementary office (315) 696-6213 and request a census form.

Private Transportation Requests Due by April 1st

New York State Education Law Section 3635(2) requires that a written request be made to the Board of Education of a School District when transportation of a student to a non-public, private or parochial school is required. This written request should be made annually and should be received by the school district no later than April 1st for transportation for the next school year. Most non-public schools have a form available to make this request and can be contacted for assistance. Please have these written requests sent to Attn: Theresa Flaherty, Tully Central School Business Office, 20 State St, Tully, NY 13159 no later than April 1, 2017.

SOUTHERN HILLS STORM

Fabius-Pompey • Lafayette • Tully Youth Football

Register now at www.tullyfootball.com

Call 315-575-0728 with questions

Tully Rec Baseball/Softball Registrations

Programs, Practice Obligations and Start Dates: 5th & 6th

Baseball or Softball - Starting mid-April (Games in May/June)

Practice 2-3 times a week. **3rd & 4th Baseball or Softball** - Starting

mid-April (Games in May/June) Practice 1-2 times a week. **1st & 2nd**

Coed Modified Pitch - Starting beginning of May (Games in Mid-

May/June) Practice or Game- 1-2 times per week. **Kindergarten Tee-**

Ball - Starting beginning of May (Games in Mid-May/June) Practice or Game 1 time per week.

Summer Camp Dates: Registrations will be sent home later this Spring and be available on the school website (www.tullyschools.org- Community Resources) **3rd-8th Boys & Girls Basketball Camp** July 5th thru 7th (W-F) 9:00 am-12:00 pm. **K-6th Boys & Girls Track/Cross Country Camp** - June 12th thru 16th (M-F) 3:10-5:00 pm.

More info can be found on the Tully Schools Website (www.tullyschools.org- Community Resources) or forms will be sent home via Back Pack Express later this Month.

Article Submission Guidelines

If you would like to submit an article (subject to editing), please email articles to Mary Fisher at the Tully Central School District Office at mfisher@tullyschools.org. If you have any questions, please call (315) 696-6204.

Please email in Word format whenever possible. Please do not insert or embed a picture within the actual Word article. **Pictures should be emailed in JPG format at 300 dpi.** Thank you.

Fitness Center Now Open to Tully Residents

The Tully Central School District Fitness Center, located in the High School athletic wing, is now open to Tully residents Monday – Friday, 4:30-7pm. Children under age 12 are not allowed.

The Fitness Center is closed on holidays and snow days, or when after school activities are cancelled for weather reasons. The gyms and indoor track are not available for use during the designated Fitness Room hours.

Tully Youth Wrestling is Alive

This past fall, community members put their heads together and started up a youth wrestling program. It was offered to students from Kindergarten through 4th Grade. 19 boys signed up and are learning the sport. The group gets together two nights per week for practice, and plan to compete in at least 4 tournaments this winter. A special thanks to our building and grounds staff that made the necessary equipment available. And also to Chris Lawton who has taken the lead on coaching these kids. We believe that whether or not this results in a return to a varsity wrestling program here at Tully, it certainly will supplement tremendous skills in other sports, and life.



Automatic External Defibrillators (AED) Locations

TCSD has several Automatic External Defibrillators (AED) mounted in various locations in the two academic buildings. In the interest of public safety, please note the following locations:

Tully Elementary - two locations: Main lobby, in a wall mounted cabinet AND Preble wing, on your left as you walk into the Preble wing, in a wall mounted cabinet.

Junior Senior High School - three locations: Principal's office, just before the double glass doors, in a wall mounted cabinet; New athletic wing, opposite the athletic director's office, in a wall mounted cabinet AND Wellness Center, in a wall mounted cabinet.

Many Tully Central School District employees have been trained in CPR and in the use of these AED's. Should a situation develop where one of these AED's was needed; everyone should be informed where the AED's are located. Thank you for your attention to this.

TULLY CENTRAL SCHOOLS
20 State Street, Tully NY 13159

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Tully, NY
Permit No. 7



TULLY CENTRAL SCHOOL EVENTS

April

Mon	3	NYS ELA Assessment	Sat	8	ACT at Tully HS
Mon	3	Junior High Spring Sports Begin	Fri	14	Good Friday, No School
Tues	4	Board of Education Meeting, HS, 6 pm	Mon-Fri	17-21	Spring Recess, No School
Fri	7	JH Dance 6:30-8:30 pm	Mon	24	Board of Education Meeting, HS, 6 pm