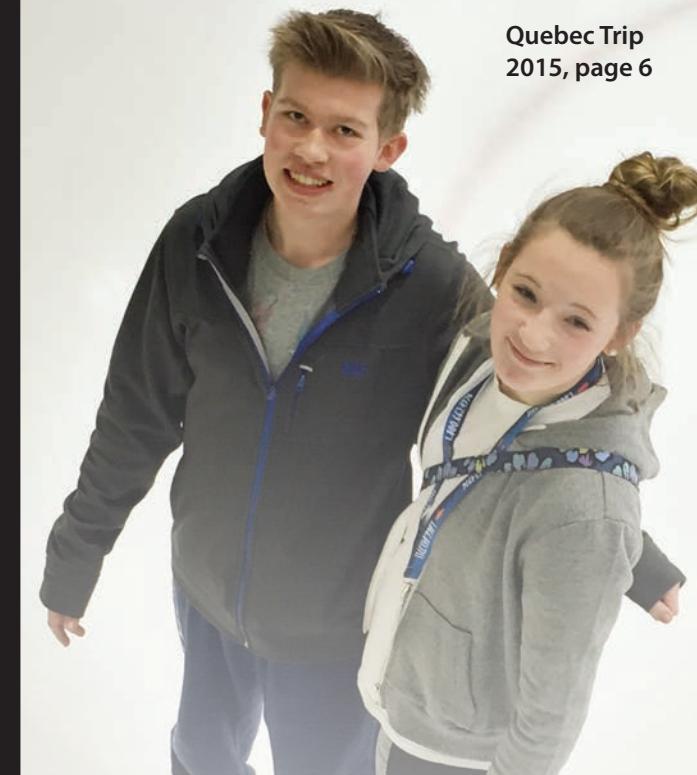




# KNIGHT INSIGHT

## MARCH 2015



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# TULLY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

## Night of Culture



In December, the fourth graders got to show off their learning about the Haudenosaunee to their families. At our "Night of Culture," students participated in traditional Iroquois games, demonstrated Iroquois oral story telling with the aid of instruments, and told the significance of the symbols on their wampum belts.

This event was the result of a "Project Based Learning" project that incorporated the expertise of the special area, ELA and classroom teachers. All of the groups worked collaboratively to help fourth graders explore the Haudenosaunee culture.

This event, coupled with oral presentations and learning stations created by the students, marked the culmination of the students' research on different aspects of Haudenosaunee life. It was a wonderful learning experience for fourth graders and their families.



## Tully Sixth Grade News

At your own risk, ask your sixth graders what they have been doing in the library, and you may get a real earful. Some of what they share may be good, and some maybe not so much! They have been up to their elbows with authentic inquiry. Every step of the process has been student driven and Library Media Specialist instructed and managed. It is very, very hard work!

However, while many have been enlightened by their findings; others disturbed by harsh truths. It all began with their being informed of the complex learning targets involved in the inquiry process. The list of standards from the English Language Arts Common Core, and the Information Fluency Continuum is vast. Luckily, the two align quite beautifully. In a nutshell, the students each generated meaningful, quality questions for research. Then, they located and evaluated several resources to use (this is harder than you think). Finally, they are now beginning to synthesize information from several resources to answer their questions and support their claim. Often times, the direction of their questioning changes as they become more informed. All text based evidence will get properly cited, and the students will be responsible for teaching and informing their peers of their findings.

We have been fortunate to line up several community professionals to either come in or do phone interviews with our students on the various topics. This has made it especially interesting and "real" for the students. These special individuals include: Rob Kennedy, cafeteria manager; Dr. Rehder, LaFayette Veterinary Clinic; Nancy Graham, CNY SPCA; Albert Haier, Dairy Nutritionist; Dr. Coppola, MD. and Rick Head, Conservation Officer. We are thankful for their time and professional knowledge.

So, go ahead...ask them, "What have you been doing at the library?" I do hope you get an earful. If not, keep probing.

*Autumn Meldrim, LMS*

## Life Skills



Fourth graders learned about life and career skills thanks to Merry Go Round Theater actors who visited in January. Students learned activities to help with listening, concentration, observation, and cooperation. Elephant, Airplane, Toast was a game that involved these skills. Actors would give an instruction and students would have five seconds to make the correct motion. This silly and fun game required concentration because without focus you would be out of the game. In conclusion, the Merry Go Round Theater actors taught us more about the skills we need for our lives and future careers.

*Written By: Mrs. Fowler-Conner's Fourth Graders*



## MARCH 2015

# TULLY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL *Sports*

## Hoop Shoot Contest

Congratulations to all the participants of the Homer Elks Club Annual Hoop Shoot Contest. During the last two weeks of December, Tully Elementary participated in the first round of the Hoop Shoot Contest. The top contestants of each age group continued on to the local lodge. On January 10th, Hoop Shoot hopefuls met at Homer Central School to give 25 free throws their best shot.



(2nd place), **Ella Hall** (2nd place), **Hannah Brenchley** (3rd place), **Matthew Bauer** (certificate of participation),  
**Jacob Verbanic** (certificate of participation).

• 10-11 year olds: **Lane Edinger** (1st place), **Mackenzie Smith** (1st place), **Adrianna Vantessel** (3rd place), **Will Hardy** (3rd place), **Tommy Maley** (4th place), **Daniel Mech** (4th place), **Mick Swan** (certificate of participation).

• 12-13 year olds: **Skylar Spinner-Conrad** (1st place), **Zach Lamarre** (2nd place)

Also, Lane Edinger received a trophy for making 8 consecutive free throws! The 1st place winners Skylar Spinner-Conrad, Lane Edinger and Mackenzie Smith continued on to Oneonta for the district level of the competition. Lane Edinger earned a 2nd place finish at Oneonta.

All the athletes did a fabulous job! We are so proud that they were able to participate this year and the three 1st place athletes advanced on to the next level at Oneonta.

We would like to congratulate these finalists and their parents who took the time to attend this highly competitive event.



## Elementary Sports

The 5th grade Tully Boys Basketball wrapped up a successful Parks and Recreation schedule on February 14. Learning to play team basketball for the first time was met with eagerness by all and an appetite to excel. The sky is the limit for this group!

**MARCH 2015**

# TULLY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

## Girls Day Out 2015



SUNY Cortland Athletics Department and the YMCA hosted a special day for girls in 4th - 7th grade. This day was in conjunction with the National Girls & Women in Sports Day on Saturday, January 24th.

The girls were invited to SUNY Cortland to participate in activities that included gymnastics, dance, rock climbing, basketball and swimming, as well as a career fair with women from Cortland and the surrounding areas. Another special event was watching the Red Dragon Women's Ice Hockey team compete.

Approximately 100 girls from area schools attended this event. Tully was represented by 20+ young girls. Tully was very proud to have so many of their students participate in an awesome day for young girls. We would like to thank SUNY Cortland student-athletes, coaches, community volunteers and staff for inviting us. We are looking forward to next year's Girls Day Out!

### A few comments from the participants:

*It was the best day ever (Avery).*

*I went off the high diving board for the first time (Ava).*

*Rock Climbing was extremely challenging.*

*We got a lot of cool stuff: water bottle, whistle, tee shirt, wrist band and a back pack (Ava).*

# Girls Day Out

MARCH 2015

# SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

## LISA M. ESPOSITO



**Family:** Dad - James, Mom - Roxann, Brother - Brian, Sister - Heather

### What has been the best part of your high school career and why?

This year I have been going to the New Visions Criminal Justice Program. I have met some great people from different schools, including my best friend Erica Wirth.

### What have you learned by the activities you have participated in outside of school?

Sports have taught me that working hard and getting the job done, can get you to a higher level.

### What are your plans after high school?

I want to go to a four year college, take the civil service exam and become a police officer.

### What do you hope to achieve by the time you're 30 years old?

I hope to have a job as a police officer and love what I am doing.

### If you could invite two or three people to dinner, who would they be and what would you talk about?

I would choose Charlie Wilson, my New Visions teacher, Erica Wirth, my best friend and President Obama. I would pick these people because we all have opinions on what is going on in the world and it would be great to hear what they have to say.

### What challenges have you faced and how have you overcome them?

The number one challenge I have is my learning disability. I've had to learn how to overcome it because it can only hold you back if you let it. I plan on doing great things.

### Who's your hero and why?

My brother, Brian Esposito is my hero. He was always better than me at everything. He is the one that gave me the drive to do something great and it doesn't matter if I'm good at it or not. What matters is that you love it and can get the job done.

## LIAM E. LIPSKY



**Family:** Dad - Richard, Mom - Theresa, Sister - Heather, Brothers - Mike and Phillip

### What has been the best part of your high school career and why?

I was in Area All-State for my trumpet playing in my senior year and I also participated in Track State finals in 11th grade was pretty awesome.

### What have you learned by the activities you have participated in outside of school?

I have become a better leader and I have grown as a person because of Brad Phelps rubbing off on me.

### What is your proudest moment in high school so far?

Winning sectionals in three sports (cross country running, wrestling, and track) in 9th grade.

### What are your plans after high school?

I plan on going to SUNY Potsdam to major in Music Business.

### What do you hope to achieve by the time you're 30 years old?

I hope to own a successful record label.

### If you could invite two or three people to dinner, who would they be and what would you talk about?

I would invite Betty White because of her great stories and Simon and Garfunkel because they seem like cool people.

### What challenges have you faced and how have you overcome them?

I have not faced too many challenges, but preparing a college audition piece was a lot of practice.

### Who's your hero and why?

My hero is Brad Phelps, Tully High School Student Council President. He is amazing in everything he does!

# TULLY JR/SR HIGH SCHOOL

Student of the Month for January

## STUDENT of the MONTH

	Danielle Bedford	English
	Nellie Sherlock	Social Studies
	Sierra Yonko	Mathematics
	Skylar Kays	Science

## STUDENT of the MONTH

	MacKenzie Bolt	Spanish
	Jordan Sturgen	Fine Arts
	Jason Phelps	Physical Education, Health
	Emily Fournier	Career and Technical Education

# TULLY JR/SR HIGH SCHOOL

## Quebec Trip 2015



Quebec was a blast. In my opinion, one of the best activities was dogsledding. The dogs ran really fast and the ride was long. Also, the dogs barked loudly and had a lot of energy. The dogs were happiest when running. You and a partner shared a sled so each could ride and then drive. After, we were able to cuddle the adorable puppies. We had a delicious lasagna lunch and Pouding Chômeur for dessert. (<http://www.epicurious.com/recipes/food/views/Maple-Pudding-Cake>) After dogsledding we went ice fishing. We put frozen corn on our hooks. Heather Lipsky caught the first fish, followed by Wyatt Oursler. Winners got Bonbons! Also fun was the shuttle ride up the hill – we needed a running start due to the snow and winding road.

The Quebec City walking tour highlighted architecture and history. We viewed the Ice Castle, the St. Lawrence River, the Chateau Frontenac, the Parliament Building, churches and more, while listening to stories from the past. (<http://www.toursvoirquebec.com>) Before the walking tour we ate a delicious crêpe breakfast and played a lively boys vs. girls game to learn more about our guides.

We visited one of the three Martello Towers in Quebec City for an interactive activity. These were small defensive forts that could resist cannon fire, give a 360 degree defensive view, and are still standing today. We learned about the daily life of a soldier at war and the

training needed to fight. We were taught how a soldier would load a rifle and stand properly while on the front lines. There were several friendly competitions that tested the student's knowledge and speed of rifle loading. We wandered the tower floors finding scrambled words in French and English in order to learn about the food, drink, and other terms that described a daily soldier's life. It was good to take a break "indoors" after the walking tour as it was a cool MINUS 38 degrees that day. No kidding.

We had some free time in town to shop on Rue St Jean before heading out to the Sugar Shack for a traditional Québécois dinner which ended with hearty crêpes and pure maple syrup. We were given individual cups of syrup and after 10 minutes of very rigorous stirring we had maple butter! The Remparts Hockey game was the next event, and, of course the Remparts won! It was great! Other greats – we had a GREAT view of the whole city from the Hôtel Le Concorde, a GREAT view from the suspension bridge over Montmorency Falls, and toured the GREAT Basilica of Sainte Anne de Beaupré just to name a few more.

Valcartiers, the tubing park, was, for some, the highlight of the trip. Check out this video to see Mrs. Bertolo's favorite ride, the Snow Rafting. (<http://www.valcartier.com/glissades-d-hiver/en/attractions/snow-rafting>) There were hills for all skill levels and the steepest was called Everest. The Tornado had you spinning in circles all the way down the hill, about one hundred times, leaving you dizzy as you tried to climb out. Ice skating and go-karts on ice kept us busy all evening.

*Article and pictures continue on page 7...*



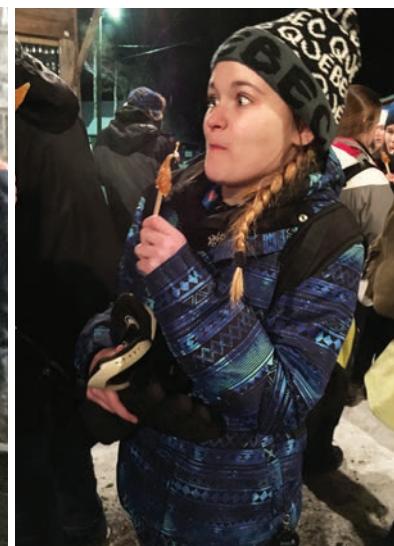
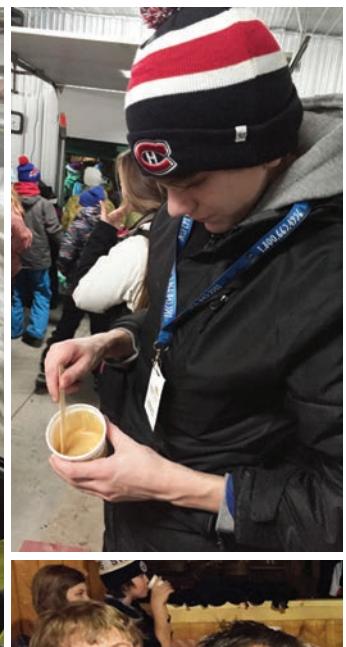
# TULLY JR/SR HIGH SCHOOL

## Quebec Trip 2015, continued...

Our last few hours in Quebec were spent at the Galleries Mall where we enjoyed our last Poutine, and shopping for souvenirs. Many thanks to our Jumpstreet Tour guide, Melissa, and trainee Brian, who were over-the-top dynamic, entertaining, informative, energized, and extremely well-organized! Melissa was QUITE the singer and arranged a Canadian Idol competition to help pass time on the bus. Co-Winners were Mackayla MacDowell and Ayla Baker but there were many fine student performances. And then there was "Pea Soup."

Thank you to our parent chaperons Mr. and Mrs. Bertolo, Mrs. Mary-Ann Murray, and Ms. Beth Moncada. Your help was invaluable! Thank you also to the Tully Administration and the Board of Education!

*Logan Bedford, Tim Zilberman,  
Tim Kamakaris and Tyler Edinger*



# TULLY JR/SR HIGH SCHOOL

## What is the Academic Decathlon?

The Academic Decathlon is a nationwide competition that encourages high school students of all levels to participate in an educational experience. Teams consist of up to nine students who take tests in multiple subjects. Each team has three students competing at different GPA levels (Honors, Scholastic, and Varsity). Each member is given an individual score against others at their level; the top two scoring members at each level have their scores applied to an overall team score as well.

On Saturday, January 24, Tully fielded a team of 8 students (and 4 alternates) to compete in seven subjects: mathematics, art, science, music, economics, literature, and social science. Each student had 30 minutes to complete a 50 question multiple-choice test in each subject. Each subject centered around the theme of new alternatives in energy. After these events, students then compete in the Super Quiz – a multiple-choice competition consisting of all subjects taken in front of a live audience.

The hard work our students put forth into studying this year's material (over 2000 pages of text!) has really paid off. Tully placed first, becoming the Section III champions! Students brought home 24 medals across all levels and subjects. Tully also dominated the Super Quiz portion of the event, coming in first place!

As winners of sectionals, Tully students move on to the state level competitions. On February 11, students will compete in the Essay portion of the Decathlon.

Then, at the end of February, students will travel to SUNY Brockport to compete in the Interview and Speech portions, as well as further competitions in the seven subjects they have already studied. Great job to all participants, and good luck at States!



### Participants and Medals

<b>Peter Barletta</b>	.....	Varsity: 2nd - Math, 3rd - Economics
<b>Alexandra Becker</b>	.....	Scholastic alternate
<b>Julia Coffin</b>	.....	Honors alternate
<b>Hunter Griffin</b>	.....	Scholastic
<b>Jake Hutton</b>	.....	Varsity: 3rd - Art, 3rd - Economics, 3rd - Social Science
<b>Julie Kunnumpurath</b>	.....	Honors: 3rd - Math, 1st - Economics, 2nd - Literature, 3rd - Social Science
<b>Sam Sheldon</b>	.....	Honors: 2nd - Social Science
<b>Jessica Swift</b>	.....	Honors alternate
<b>Emily Teeter</b>	.....	Honors alternate
<b>Katie Warner</b>	.....	Honors: 1st - Art, 3rd - Science, 1st - Literature, 1st - Social Science
<b>Peyton Wolf</b>	.....	Scholastic: 3rd - Music, 3rd - Literature, 1st - Social Science
<b>Matt Wood</b>	.....	Scholastic: 1st - Math, 1st - Art, 1st - Science, 1st - Music, 1st - Scholastic, 2nd - Literature, 2nd - Social Science

# TULLY JR/SR HIGH SCHOOL ♦ HONOR ROLL

## Second Marking Period – 2015

The following junior high (7-8) and senior high (9-12) students at Tully Junior-Senior High School qualified for the High Honor, Honor, or Merit Roll for the first marking period. Students attaining an overall average of 94.5 and above qualified for the High Honor Roll. Students who attained an overall average of 89.5 and above qualified for the Honor Roll and those with 84.5 qualified for the Merit Roll. There must be no incompletes.

### SEVENTH GRADE

#### HIGH HONOR

Nicole Ball  
Ian Byrne  
Elizabeth Ives  
Anna Moss  
Marissa Scalza  
Ethan Selmser

#### HONOR

Rachel Biggs  
Nathaniel Cattell  
Sarah Daddona  
Camryn Denick  
Jade Dillenbeck  
Cameron Downey  
Constantino Ferro

#### MERIT

Phoebe Adams  
Coby Braun  
Ashlynn Craig  
Emma Huggins  
Gabriel Inman  
Matthew Kelly  
Chelsea Phillips  
Jonah Shay  
Grace Swan  
Kilee Walsh

### EIGHTH GRADE

#### HIGH HONOR

Logan Bedford  
Rachel Berry  
Dante Bertolo  
Madison Brown  
Alison Carr  
Caleb Erno  
Erin Hutton

Timothy Kamakaris  
Ashley Lippert  
Marcus Lombardo  
Madison Smith  
Timothy Zilberman

#### HONOR

Bailee Abalos  
Kaycee Bailer  
Kayla Barry  
Jessica Bizub  
Colin Byrne

Mackenzie Delles  
Jacob Dietz  
Zachary Ebert  
Jacob Edinger  
Tyler Edinger  
Bryce Florian  
Sydney Grosso  
Gemma Guy  
Caitlin Halladay  
Jenna Hamelinck

### Rachael Hanson

Tarissa Hiltbrand  
William Lake  
Nathan Lamoureux  
Heather Lipsky  
Mackayla MacDowall  
Dylaney McNerney  
Sydney McNerney  
Kathryn Moncada  
Anabella Morgan  
Maria Murray  
Garrett Pierpoint  
Wiley Shaw  
Morgan Spaulding  
Jared Swift  
Austin Taubman  
Kaylee White  
Alicia Wood  
Sierra Yonko

#### MERIT

Ayla Baker  
Payton Beckwith  
Shane Bowers  
David Bruns  
Ryan Bunaisky  
Garrett Fox  
Alexia Hotchkiss  
Alex Locke-Wright

### Wyatt Oursler

Margaret Picciano  
Andrew Schaber  
Yorvin Solis-Samayoa  
Keith Van Dyne  
Alexander Wiers  
Ethan Wilson

### NINTH GRADE

#### HIGH HONOR

David Ball  
Daniel Bort  
Julia Coffin  
Joseph Crawford  
Jessica Donald  
Emma Gero  
Spencer Metz

Gabrielle Moncada  
Andrew Moss

Dominique Negrete

Jessica Swift

#### HONOR

Kaden Averill  
Christina Aylesworth  
Joseph Baker  
Jessica Benedetto  
Joshua Canaan  
Joanna Case  
Grace Chaffee  
Matthew Doolittle  
Elena Fecco  
Haley Fowler-Conner

### Mary Frank

Rachel Frateschi  
Ryan Gordona  
Abby Harrington  
Morgan Hiltbrand  
Taz Josh  
Matthew Kamakaris  
Sean King  
Olivia Krom  
Emily Lantiegne  
Thomas Morse  
Ashley Quinn  
Matthew Slazik  
Gerrit Van Dyne  
Madalynn Wiers  
Peyton Wolf

#### MERIT

Ceili Austin  
Alexandra Becker  
Leah Cook-Nethery  
Jackson Deal  
Mary Estay  
Elizabeth Ferguson  
Ryan King  
Evan Rapp  
Morgan Stone  
Alexandra Walowsky  
Edwin Young

**MARCH 2015**

# TULLY JR/SR HIGH SCHOOL ♦ HONOR ROLL, CONTINUED

## **TENTH GRADE**

### **HIGH HONOR**

Amanda Bielecki  
MacKenzie Bolt  
Magdalyn Kosalek  
Jakob Moss  
Alexandra Tornatore

### **HONOR**

Cody Baehr  
Kara Clark  
Danah Earley  
Emily Fournier  
Daniel Gambell  
Rachel Gould  
Hunter Griffin  
Taylor Grosso  
Jade Hendricks  
Benjamin Jones  
Skylar Kays  
Callahan Lyon  
Maureen Murphy  
Laura Pascarella  
Emmeline Perkins  
Jason Phelps  
Mackenzie Rienhardt  
Alyssa Riese  
Emily Spath  
Alexander Stoogenke  
Michael Wood

### **MERIT**

Colin Byrnes  
Payton Earley  
Ryan Foody  
Elsa Gauss  
Anthony Geiss  
Meghan Hawley  
Aaron Hughes

## **ELEVENTH GRADE**

### **HIGH HONOR**

Walter Abrams  
Danielle Bedford  
Sabrina Covey  
Ashleigh Crawford  
Emma Currie  
Ashley Daddona  
James Davenport  
Tessa Doody  
Sarah Huggins  
Jon Lippert  
Elena McAninch  
Cassidy McGinn  
Brendan McGinn  
Erynn Mc너ney  
Caesar Morenus  
Patrick Morse  
Charles Petit  
Sophia Sheldon  
Samuel Sheldon  
Nellie Sherlock  
Breanne Trudeau  
Maureen Whitney

## **HONOR**

Lily Aldrich  
Trevor Averill  
Katelyn Bordwell  
Landon Drumm  
Wesley Fecco  
Spencer George  
Timothy Gibbons  
Ashley Howe  
Ellen Jaworski  
Hannah Leva  
Michael Lombardo  
Meredith Mumper  
Matthew Nassif  
Joseph Schultz  
Chelsea Smith  
Emily Teeter  
Kimberly Welch

### **MERIT**

Rachael Acosta  
Gracie Bartholomew  
Karmen Beckwith  
Kyle Berardi  
Brandi Bradley  
Carly Cox  
Maurysha Cuttino  
Nickolas Edinger  
Zoe Fritz  
Brendan Gordona  
Shauna Hayes  
Desirea Hemingway  
Owen Hoke  
Steven Hust  
Jeremy Lake  
Nicholas Martino  
Samuel Pitman  
Alicia Snyder

## **HONOR**

Christian Tague  
Isaih Thomas  
Gregory Voggel  
Deeanna Wade  
Amber Wiers  
Christian Zook

## **TWELFTH GRADE**

### **HIGH HONOR**

Jenna Bailey  
Taylor Currie  
Clare Denick  
Madison Featherstone  
Jeffrey Fields  
Katherine Graham  
Lydia Guy  
Megan Hafler  
Kyle Hoke  
Julie Kunnumpurath  
James Maskelony  
Danielle O'Neill  
Lindsey Petit  
Bradley Phelps  
Megan Pierpoint  
Sara Reppenhagen  
Elizabeth Russell  
Carleigh Tarala  
Michaela Tracy  
Kathleen Warner  
S. Douglas Wehbe  
Brianna Wolf  
Christine Yeomans

## **HONOR**

Jennifer Barrows  
Madison Bossard  
Emily Congelli  
Rebecca Cornell  
Emily Cornue  
Jonathan DeCarlo  
Cheyanne Fisher  
Kayleigh Fournier  
Brandi Fritz  
Jacob Jaworski  
Bernard Kelly  
Liam Lipsky  
Taylor Quinn  
Bridgette Spicer  
Evan Visconti  
Matthew Wood  
Carolyn Zobel

### **MERIT**

Maria Courtwright  
Hunter Currie  
Meagan Dennis  
Olivia Ganley  
Raymond Herrick  
Emma Hyvarinen  
Grace Johnson  
Madison Lyon  
Adrian Nash  
Anthony Negrete  
Montana Patriarco  
Mackenzie Prince  
Matthew Quinlan  
Taylor Soderholm  
Kirsten Soos  
Jillian Stewart

**MARCH 2015**

# TULLY DISTRICT WIDE NEWS

## 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, 2015.**

## Share Your Photography!

**Tully is requesting that parents, students, teachers, friends or neighbors send pictures of things that happen in, around, or relating to school.**

You don't need to send an article, just an image(s). If you send in your name we will publish it with your picture(s)!

Please send to: [mfisher@tullyschools.org](mailto:mfisher@tullyschools.org)

## Guidelines for Articles for Knight Insight

The Knight Insight is published ten times per year and available online at [tullyschools.org](http://tullyschools.org).

The **deadline** for article submissions is the **10th of each month** for the following month edition, except the combined issues: the deadline for the summer issue, July/August is June 30 and the deadline for the winter issue, January/February is December 30.

We must adhere to the deadline in order to publish each issue in a timely manner. All material is subject to editing. The district has the final decision whether or not to publish an article.

If you would like to submit an article, please **email articles to Mary Fisher** at the Tully Central School District Office at [mfisher@tullyschools.org](mailto:mfisher@tullyschools.org)

If you have any questions, please call (315) 696-6204.

It is requested that all articles be emailed in Word format whenever possible. Please do not capitalize all the words in the article. Please do not insert or embed a picture within the actual Word article. Pictures should be emailed in JPG format at 300 dpi. If you are unable to email the picture, you may drop it off to the district office. If you want the picture returned, please provide a self-addressed stamped envelope.

If you are unable to email your article in Word format, it is helpful if the material submitted is typed. You may drop it off to the district office or you may fax it to (315) 883-1343.

## Alumni News

The Knight Insight wishes to highlight news of recent graduates. If you have information relating to academic or the career path of recent graduates, please email to: [mfisher@tullyschools.org](mailto:mfisher@tullyschools.org)

If you prefer, mail your article to Mary Fisher, Tully Central School District, 20 State St, Tully, NY 13159.

If you have any questions, call the district office at 315-696-6204.



# BOARD OF EDUCATION

## Nominating Petitions Available for Board of Education Positions:

Three terms of office on the Tully Central School District Board of Education will expire on June 30, 2015. Each winner will be elected for three year terms from July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2018 at the annual school district election to be held on May 19, 2015.

Board of Education vacancies are not considered to be separate specific offices. This nominating petition does not describe a specific vacancy. Each candidate is considered for a vacant seat on the Board of Education as a whole and not as only to a specific office presently held by an individual.

Candidates may be nominated only by petition. Each nominating petition must be filed with the School District Clerk no later than 5:00 pm on April 20, 2015. 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.

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.

Nominating petitions are now available. If you would like a nominating petition, please contact the district office at (315) 696-6204 or email [mfisher@tullyschools.org](mailto:mfisher@tullyschools.org)

## Board of Education Upcoming Meeting Dates

**Meeting location: Junior/Senior High School Conference Room or Junior/Senior High School Library**

**Meeting 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](http://www.tullyschools.org)

03.16.15	(Monday)	Meeting
04.13.15	(Monday)	Meeting
04.20.15	(Monday)	(Meeting will need to be held week of 04.20.15 if budget was not adopted at 04.13.15 meeting. Budget must be adopted by 04.24.15.)
05.07.15	(Thursday)	Budget Public Hearing (Must be held 7-14 days prior to Budget Vote Day)
05.19.15	(Tuesday)	Meeting <b>Budget Vote: 6:00 am-9:00 pm</b>
06.15.15	(Monday)	Meeting

Term Exp.	Member
2015	<b>Mr. Ken Steiger, President</b> 358 Frenchs Bay Road Tully, New York 13159 Home: (315) 696-5829
2017	<b>Mr. James Bertolo, Vice President</b> 5360 Peninsula Road Tully, New York 13159 Home: (315) 696-8786
2016	<b>Mrs. Denise Cardamone</b> 6368 Route 80 Tully, New York 13159 Home: (315) 696-5599
2016	<b>Mr. Mark Drumm</b> 5344 Rt. 80, PO Box 1177 Tully, New York 13159 Home: (315) 696-5958
2015	<b>Mr. Jan Kublick</b> 7416 Maple Ridge Road PO Box 79, Tully, New York 13159 Home: (315) 696-5292
2017	<b>Mr. Steve Pierce</b> 5613 Whittier Lane Tully, New York 13159 Cell: (315) 575-0728
2015	<b>Mr. Brad Phelps, Student Ex Officio member</b> 1025 Sky High Road Tully, New York 13159 Home: (315) 696-2450
2015	<b>Mr. Dan Twentyman</b> 143 Long Road Tully, New York 13159 Home: (315) 696-8741

**MARCH 2015**

# CLOSING REMARKS



## News from the Superintendent

During the 2010-11 school year, New York State implemented the GEA (Gap Elimination Adjustment). At that time there was a fairly substantial and real budget deficit at the State level. Over the past five years, the GEA has been one of the primary tools New York State politicians have used to address this budget deficit. Essentially, the GEA is a reduction in the school aid we are slated to receive; literally, New York State tells school districts that they will be getting one level of state aid, based upon a pre-determined State aid formula, but then in reality the State ignores that formula and gives school districts a lower level of aid.

Over the past five years, the GEA for Tully Schools has totaled approximately \$5,995,000. For the 2015-16 school year, we project the GEA for Tully Schools will be approximately \$835,000. Given the economic climate five years ago, and the State's budget deficit at that time, the GEA made sense. Currently, however, New York State is experiencing a budget surplus, and therefore has no need to maintain the GEA. Should our state level elected officials choose to do so, they could completely eliminate the GEA this year.

One of the other main challenges in constructing our 2015-16 school budget is that we do not know what level of State aid to anticipate. It is possible that our State aid will remain flat. It is also possible that our State aid will increase by 4.8%. Governor Cuomo has stated that any increases in State aid will be tied to meeting his demands for educational reform. He has many demands, and he has indicated that this is an all or nothing deal. Given all of this, it seems likely that we won't know specifically what level of State aid we will be receiving, until after we are obligated to adopt our 2015-16 school budget.

So, as we work to finalize the 2015-16 school budget, we will focus on the following four ideas. First, we will use State Aid numbers that are relatively flat. Second, we will attempt to preserve all of our student services and programs. Third, we will strive to create a budget that allows us to put forth a tax levy increase that remains below the "2% tax cap". Fourth, we will strive to reduce the amount of fund balance that we use to close our own budget gap.

Just as a point of reference, the projected GEA for the 2015-16 school year is about the same as the amount of fund balance we project we will need to use to balance our own budget. Five years ago this may have made sense, but now it just seems that the Governor is using our fund balance as leverage in his negotiations with the State Legislature.

**Robert Hughes,**  
**Superintendent of Schools**  
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**MARCH 2015**