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KNIGHT INSIGHT

**Class of 2016 Continues the Tradition**

At the end of the summer, the Class of 2015 began a new tradition at the Junior Senior High School. They claimed a portion of the hallway outside of the main office as their own. This year's seniors wanted to continue this tradition and do the same. Many thanks to senior Elana McAninch who painted "Class of 2016" on the wall. Then seniors placed their hand prints, made to look like foot prints, all around it. The seniors are very excited to leave their mark on the wall for the school year. The tradition will continue as the wall will be painted over and made ready for the Class of 2017.

TULLY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Elementary News

Wow! It is hard to believe that the first three weeks in kindergarten have passed. What a transformation our little guys have made. They went from being new to being ready to run the school in this short amount of time.

We say it takes a village to raise a child, and all of kindergarten has been working really hard to make sure that all are having a wonderful first school experience. The students have learned to sit and listen, and most of all... to follow directions. Though the first couple of weeks were very different to many, we can now get to our buses without holding onto a string. We can get to the library, gym, art room, computer room, music room and most importantly the lunch room.

Friendship and responsibility have been highlighted, and everyone is doing their best to be a good friend and be responsible for themselves. Even though at the end of the day, they may be dragging themselves home, no one slept through a fire drill, so we are on the right track.

As a kindergarten family, we are so looking forward to the rest of the year with all of the fun filled things we get to do. What all of us look forward to the most is watching as our groups grow and change.

Kindergarten is really an amazing place to be!



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TULLY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



by Josh Lamkin

Eric Litwin, Author/Musician Performs at the Tully Elementary School Auditorium **Tuesday, October 20th** **at 6pm (FREE)**

**A family event for students and parents
to enjoy together!**

Eric Litwin (Mr. Eric) is a guitar strumming, book writing, harmonica blowing, song singing, folksy, fun type of guy. He is the # 1 New York Times Best Selling author of the first four *Pete the Cat* picture books and the author of the new musical series *The Nuts*.

Eric's books have sold over 1.5 million copies, been translated into seven languages and won 15 state and national awards including a *Theodor Geisel Seuss Honor Award*. He has also recorded award winning music CDs.

Eric is a popular performing artist who plays guitar, sings, tells musical stories and brings books to life. He is also a nationally respected keynote speaker on interactive literacy and music.

Eric is the co-creator of *The Learning Groove* which offers parent and child music classes and preschool music curriculum.

Eric likes music, books and coffee.

**Additional information will be coming home with the students.*

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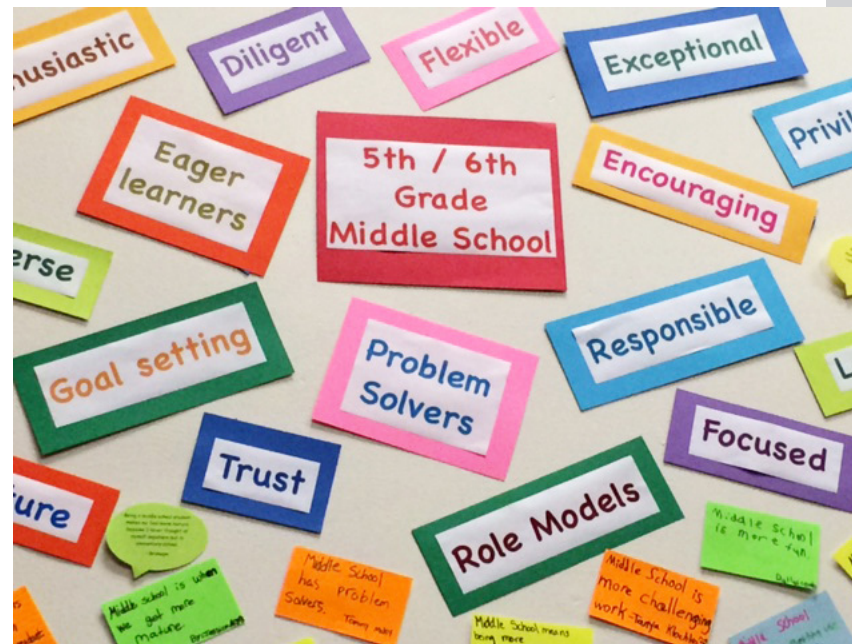
TULLY MIDDLE SCHOOL

Middle School News

On opening day, 5th-6th graders were excited to see new hallway signs welcoming them to "Middle School." The oldest students in the elementary building attend their core classes upstairs, rotating between: Math, Reading, Science/Social Studies, and English. In addition to following similar academic schedules, students in both grades are working together on activities designed to promote teamwork and build good character.

Middle school students take ownership for their learning by completing weekly goal sheets and will participate in student-led report card conferences in November. 5th-6th graders are eager to become role models for younger students and will soon work with a T.E.S. partner class on a variety of activities. Each month, four middle school students who demonstrate exceptional acts of good character will be recognized as "students of the month."

5th-6th graders are taking their leadership roles seriously and are off to a fantastic start at Tully Middle School!



The 5th and 6th grade team worked very hard this summer to create a middle school.

When 5th and 6th grade students arrived the first day they noticed new signs. Students were very excited to be the first to be known as "middle schoolers."

An assembly was held and students were asked what was different about being in middle school. Responses included things such as: *more mature, more responsibility, leaders and role models to elementary students, and more privileges.*

Students will be required to fill out goal sheets to help them set goals and reach them. There will also be a Student-of-the-Month which will be acknowledged at the end of each month.

SENIOR SPOTLIGHT



TREVOR T. AVERILL

What is your proudest moment in high school so far?

My proudest moment has been a combination of graduating every year without struggling and being successful in athletics, clubs and chorus.

What are your plans after high school?

I plan on attending TC3 and working on an engineering and science degree then transferring to Cornell to finish my engineering degree to begin a successful job.

Family: Corey Averill, father; Doreen Averill Garafalo, mother; and Kaden, brother.

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

Honestly, besides being on successful sports teams and enjoying playing the sports I love, just these couple of days that I have been a senior has been the best part of high school so far. There's a certain feeling you experience upon becoming a senior.

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

I have learned how important it is to be open minded and flexible when playing with my travel lacrosse in various sports across numerous states. Playing on a sports team with people you have just met certainly teaches you how to become a successful person in your future when it comes to cooperating with others.

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

I hope I have a family, with a successful job and a house to live in.

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

I would invite an experienced civil engineer to talk about his everyday schedule and experiences as a civil engineer. I would also invite Tom Brady to talk with him about his inspiring story and his perseverance and hard work.

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

I have faced challenges while competing in high levels of athletics and also facing classes with different material every year. Some classes are more difficult than others.

Who's your hero and why?

My hero is my father. He is a perfect role model for me and what I want to achieve in my life by the time I am his age.



DANIELLE R. BEDFORD

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

By the time I am 30, I hope to have paid off all of my college loans.

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

Troy Polamalu-talk about his career as a Pittsburgh Steeler
Albert Einstein- discuss what made him question, and ultimately create equations, for the science that he did.
Anna Todd- I would ask her what inspired her to write her books.

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

My greatest challenge has been balancing school, work, athletics and my personal life. To overcome this I have utilized time management and set priorities.

Who's your hero and why?

My hero is my mom because she is always challenging herself to be better.

Family: Joann and Darren Featherstone and Steven Bedford, parents; Logan Bedford, Madison & Erin Featherstone, siblings.

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

The friendships and relationships I have built are the best part of my high school career because they are relationships I will cherish forever.

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

From the activities I participated in, I have learned responsibility, time management and teamwork.

What is your proudest moment in high school so far?

Receiving 100 on my US History Regents is my proudest moment.

What are your plans after high school?

I would like to become a nurse practitioner in the Nic-U of a hospital.

DISTRICT WIDE NEWS



WELCOME

New Teachers

**Whitney Forbes**

Hello Tully community!

My name is Whitney Forbes and I am excited to be the new Chemistry teacher at the Junior-Senior High School. I completed my undergraduate degree at SUNY Geneseo and my graduate degree at the College of Saint Rose, working as a chemistry analyst at Upstate Freshwater Institute in between times.

Since graduating from Saint Rose, I have worked as a science teacher at an alternative education program in Albany, NY and most recently at Bishop Grimes.

In my spare time I enjoy teaching dance, choreographing, reading, hiking, and exploring the great outdoors!

**Christian Gunn**

I received both my Bachelors of Science in Physical Education K-12 and Masters in Teaching in Health Education K-12 at SUNY Cortland.

This is my first physical education teaching job. Before this, I worked in Rochester, NY as a substitute teacher for two years and coached soccer and hockey.

**Rachel Kolod**

I am starting my career at Tully Elementary as a first grade teacher. I graduated from SUNY Cortland in 2014 and since then, have furthered my education at Syracuse University. I did my student teaching right here at the Tully elementary school.

Outside of school, I am an avid Syracuse basketball fan and enjoys traveling.

DISTRICT WIDE NEWS



WELCOME

New Teachers



Ashley Mirabito

My name is Ashley Mirabito and I am the new MS/HS health teacher.

I am originally from Norwich, NY and moved to the Syracuse area 4 years ago.

I received my bachelor's degree in Physical Education at Springfield College in Massachusetts and SUNY Cortland. I completed my master's degree in Health Education at Ithaca College. I most recently taught K-8 PE & 8th grade health at Lyncourt Union Free School District in Syracuse.

In my free time I enjoy golfing, traveling, kayaking and spending time with my family and friends.



Emily Paccia

As a former student of the Tully School District, I am incredibly happy to be back in my hometown. I may not have realized it when I was growing up, but there is something so special about Tully, the whole community, that keeps pulling me back to my Alma-Mater.

As an English teacher, I have a deep love of reading which began as a young child with *The Lorax* by Dr. Seuss and *Where the Wild Things Are* by Maurice Sendak. Cultivating my love of reading, my favorite authors include J.R.R. Tolkien, Harper Lee, F. Scott Fitzgerald, and Lemony Snicket; however, the previous authors are often trumped by my favorite, William Shakespeare. Inspired by Tolkien when he stated, "faithless is he that says farewell when the road darkens," I try to live my life courageously, looking out for others, and trying to bring a little more sunshine to the world.

I am greatly looking forward to being back in the halls of Tully Jr/Sr High School and being inspired by the students of this community on a daily basis.



Kaitlyn Stooks

My name is Kaitlyn Stooks and I teach English to Speakers of Other Languages in the elementary school and junior senior high school.

I completed my undergraduate degree in elementary, early childhood and special education at St. Bonaventure University. Following that, I received my Master's degree in teaching English to speakers of other languages from SUNY Cortland. I have had the privilege to teach ESOL between Fabius-Pompey and Tully for the past two years.

Last year, I had the opportunity to work with the Tully Junior High Girls Lacrosse team.

I am excited to be working with students in the Black Knight community!

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DISTRICT WIDE NEWS

Tully Girl Scout Troop 10265



The Tully Girl Scout Troop 10265 is the first troop in Tully's history to receive the *Girl Scout Bronze Award*.

Their community service project was titled "*Tully Free Library Landscaping Revitalization*" and was completed on August 29, 2015.

The girls are 6th graders attending Tully Elementary: Jessica Argus, Abby McIntosh, Shannon Pierce, Vanessa Resch, Airelle Ringhiser, Rebecca Tomushunas and Megan Wilson.

Congratulations on a job well done, scouts!

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Term Expires	Member/Title	Contact
2016	Mr. Mark Drumm, President	(315) 696-5958
2017	Mr. James Bertolo, Vice President	(315) 696-8786
2016	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
2016	Miss Cassidy McGinn Student Ex Officio Member	(315) 696-6821

Meeting Dates

Meetings are held in the Junior/Senior High School Library at 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. Upcoming BOE meetings through December 2015:

- ◆ **October 13, 2015**
- ◆ **October 26, 2015**
- ◆ **November 10, 2015**
- ◆ **November 23, 2015**
- ◆ **December 8, 2015**
- ◆ **December 21, 2015**

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CLOSING REMARKS



As a small school district we have a few distinct advantages over our larger counterparts. One of these advantages is that we are able to create grade level configurations that promote gradual and smooth transitions for our students. With our new 5th and 6th grade middle school model in place, we have taken an additional step toward ensuring these transitions even smoother.

In kindergarten through 4th grade, our students have a very consistent academic experience, spending most of the day with one teacher and with the same group of classmates. This is often referred to in New York State as the “common branch” model for organizing an academic program. In 5th and 6th grade, our students stay in the same building, but begin to experience a more departmentalized approach to organizing an academic program. Specifically, they change classes in their core subject areas (ELA, math, social students/science). In doing so, our students are able to work toward becoming more independent and responsible for their own learning, but in a familiar and supportive environment.

The big transition for our students occurs as they move from the elementary school to the JSHS. Our new middle school model will help ease the stress of this transition, in that it will help our students to become familiar with the rhythms associated with changing classes and managing their own instructional materials. We do have supports in place to help our students with this transition, but on a day-to-day basis, our students are expected to manage their time and resources effectively, so that they get to all of their classes on time and prepared.

Our JSHS 7-12 configuration ensures that our students’ transition from 8th to 9th grade is very smooth. Our high school students are able to stay in the same building, with many of the same supports they had in place as junior high students. This allows them to focus their energies on the academic transition that they must make as they move from junior high school to high school.

Our goal in introducing the new middle school model is to ensure that as our students move from kindergarten through 12th grade, they are able to seamlessly develop a sense of autonomy and independence as learners, so that when they do graduate, they are able to make a smooth transition from Tully to whatever is next.

Robert Hughes, Superintendent of Schools

Office: 315-696-6204

Email: rhughes@tullyschools.org

Article Submission Guidelines

The Knight Insight is published ten times per year and is available online @ tullyschools.org.

The **deadline for article submissions is the 10th of each month** except for 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. 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, mail it to Mary Fisher, Tully Central School District, 20 State St, Tully, NY 13159, or send by fax 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.

SIGN UP FOR ED ALERT

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