

Issue:
April
2025



KNIGHT INSIGHT



Revolting Children Take the Stage

Students in the JSHS drama department put on a spectacular show the first weekend in March, presenting the musical of *Matilda*. This witty and energetic show full of revolting children and the well-known Wormwood family had its audience on the edge of their seats, laughing throughout the production. Headmistress, Miss Trunchbull (Kaitlyn Bibik), had the audacity of throwing a student off the stage by her braids while the audience watched in wonder at a dummy spinning right out of the auditorium. Mr. Wormwood (Brennan Dilmore) kept everyone in stitches with his one-liners and song about his Telly, and so did Michael Wormwood (Marshall Kania) with his single-worded answers. Rodolpho (Lyn Kania) and Mrs. Wormwood (Lillith Andrews) dazzled everyone with their salsa skills and flare while Matilda (Evangeline Votra) and Miss Honey (Lucy Wright) serenaded everyone with their songs. While the children of Crunchem Hall were afraid to be put in the dreaded Chokey, they learned to stand up for what is right and revolt against the headmistress as Matilda found peace and comfort in her new teacher.

After the last bow of the three-day production cycle, seniors Lillith Andrews and Lucy Wright were celebrated by the cast and crew for their last performance at the JSHS. Congratulations to all cast, crew, and production team for a job well-done!



Principal's Message



Congratulations to the cast and crew of our fifth grade musical, *Pirates! The Musical!* On February 7th and 8th, they delighted audiences with one school performance and two community showings. Thank you to Mrs. Biggar, Ms. Machuga, Miss Pasco, and our actors for all their hard work in putting on such a fantastic show!

This month in P2, students will learn more about Humor, Fairness, Appreciation of Beauty & Excellence, and Purpose. Students in grades 3-5 will complete the NYS Assessments in ELA and math this month and dates have been finalized. They are different from the tentative dates listed in the March issue. Students in grades 3 and 4 will test ELA on April 8th and 9th, and grade 5 will test on April 23rd and 24th. All grades 3-5 will test math on April 30th and May 1st. If you have any questions or concerns about assessments at Tully, or you wish to receive additional information, please contact your child's teacher or me.

I hope that everyone has a wonderful Spring Break. We really pick up the pace for the last quarter of the school year.

Edward Kupiec, ES Principal

Phone: 315.696.6213 • Twitter: @ekupiecTullyES • Email: ed.kupiec@tullyschools.org

PTO News

Hello, Tully families! Did you know TES PTO is also a 501(c)(3) organization? We accept tax-exempt donations year-round. Please inquire if you would like to make a donation. Throughout the school year, TES PTO offers funding to various student clubs and activities, as well as teacher/classroom support – even field trips!

If you would like to learn more about PTO, become involved (various levels of volunteering available), or just listen to a meeting, please join us on Zoom! At this time, we are holding our monthly meetings virtually on the first Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. Please also join our Facebook page, Tully Elementary PTO.

Seeing Spots

The pre-K students held their annual Puppy Parade at the beginning of March, celebrating the 101 days of school. Students dressed as Dalmatians after the iconic movie *101 Dalmatians*. With their spotted t-shirts and ears, the pre-K wound their way through the halls until they reached the cafeteria where their parents were waiting.

You could hear the tiny little barks throughout the breezeway along with "Who Let the Dogs Out?" before you could see them; then it was a flurry of spots! Once all the puppies paraded into the cafeteria, parents were invited to join them in the middle for a dance party! Our youngest students enjoyed seeing their parents, taking pictures, and showing off their moves, and spots, to their loved ones.



Library Lovin'

Students at the elementary have been enjoying their time in the library with Mr. Nabinger, who splits his time between both the elementary and the junior-senior high school. On this particular visit, students heard Mr. Nabinger read *Gibberish* by Young Vo which is about a boy who feels like an outsider when he moves to an English-speaking country and isn't able to understand what others are saying. The characters in the story are colored in shades of grey with the exception of the main character, showing the disconnect between him and others. As another student befriends the main character and tries to communicate with him, her colors get brighter. Mr. Nabinger chose this story to highlight how it can feel when things are new and how our students can help bridge the gap even if there is a language barrier. Students enjoyed how Mr. Nabinger used facial expressions and noises to make the story come to life. After listening to the story and answering some questions about feelings and acceptance, students milled around looking for their next great read.



TULLY JR-SR HIGH SCHOOL

Spreading Love to Our Neighbor

For Valentine's Day, our entire JSHS student body, including teachers, helped complete a service project that spread a little love to our neighboring school district, Fabius-Pompey. Each student made a Valentine's Day card so every student in grades six through twelve at Fabius would receive one. After the cards were made and counted, Daneli Leadership students attached a lollipop to each card. Mr. O'Brien and a few students then took a quick trip over to Fabius where they handed over the valentines to a few of their students.

The Tully and Fabius students had some time to chat and look through the cards, creating a really special moment. The cards were then distributed during lunches before the winter break. When all was said and done, a little over 350 cards were made and handed out. We received positive feedback from the employees and students attending Fabius, which made the project a heartwarming endeavor. It definitely goes to show that neighboring schools and communities can be rivals on the field but good friends at heart.



Principal's Message



As we enter the fourth marking period and move towards the end of the year, students will have final projects, final exams, AP exams, performance reviews, Regents exams, and lots of studying to do. This can be a very stressful time for students. There are steps they can take to ease their stress by being prepared and ready for each item they must check off of their list to wrap up the end of the school year. During April and right after Spring Break is a spectacular time to start making plans because May and June tests, end-of-year events, and June will be here before we know it!

We are aware of how busy our students and families are! It is important to have conversations regarding when students have finals and projects due. It is recommended that students start to review course material two or more weeks in advance of the assessments for about ten minutes a day. This can help create an environment where students don't feel the need to study for many hours the day(s) before a final and reduce overall testing anxiety.

In addition, many teachers will hold review sessions for AP Exams, finals, and Regents exams before the assessment and during Regents week. Students should take advantage of these opportunities in order to determine the concepts they know and the concepts on which they need to focus. The Regents schedule will be sent out via ParentSquare.

Due to the last marking period potentially being a very stressful time for students, it is very important for students to take care of their mental and physical well-being. While they are studying, they should take breaks in order to give their brains a rest and time to process what they have learned. The twenty minutes of studying followed by a ten minute break strategy works well for many. It is important for students to have healthy options to eat and drink in order to fuel their brains. Students should also be well-rested. Staying up too late or pulling all-nighters may create a situation where students' brains are not functioning at maximum capacity and can be detrimental to their grades.

If students are feeling overwhelmed or parents believe their children are overwhelmed, please let the counselors or administration know. We are here to help guide students all the time, but we are especially cognizant of the stress that occurs at the end of the year. We are confident that with planning and self-awareness, all students can be successful throughout the fourth marking period and with finals!

Best wishes to all of our students for a successful end to the school year!

Michael O'Brien, JSHS Principal • Phone: 315.696.6235 • Email: mike.obrien@tullyschools.org

Becoming the Teacher



Students in Global II got the chance to become the teacher during one of their projects. Topics during the WWII time period were assigned to groups and students then had to pull information that would be used during a regular lesson. In addition, they needed to know information related to their topic by gathering outside sources in case they were asked in-depth questions. Students then worked within their groups to create a lesson using Powerpoint. During their lesson, they headed discussion with political cartoons, showed clips of films, and asked their audience questions. Mr. Mahns would interject and give more information if something was missed.

Students were then evaluated on their presentation skills, their in-depth knowledge about their topic, engaging their audiences with open-ended questions, and their participation in other students' presentations. What an engaging way to learn about the world's history!

Three Win FFA Scholarship

Congratulations to Beau Brown, Sythe Brown, and Griffin Von Uderitz for each winning a \$1,000 Supervised Agriculture Experience scholarship from Farm Credit East to help support their SAE projects!



Senior Spotlight - Ardil (Mehdi Dursun)



People/Pets in your family: Ömer (father), Aşir (mother), Richard (guardian), Andrew, Bryan, Rumet, Medet, Muhammed Emin, (brothers), and Puck (dog).

What is your proudest moment in high school so far? My proudest moment in high school was when I was in Turkey playing tennis. My tennis team made it to the national championships, and our high school team was ranked among the top twenty teams in the country. Another proud moment was seeing the success of our Tully soccer team in the sectional games. It was so

inspiring to see students, teachers, and families come together to support us. Our victories were a result of the hard work, dedication, and discipline that our teams put in. These experiences taught me the value of teamwork and perseverance, and I will always carry that pride.

Where do you see yourself in ten years? In ten years, I see myself as a lawyer and a human rights activist, working to ensure that everyone, regardless of their background or identity, has access to justice and equality. I would dedicate my career to fighting for the rights of marginalized and oppressed communities, offering legal support to those who need it the most. As a lawyer, I aim to not only represent people in court but also to be a voice for the voiceless, advocating for the protection of basic human rights on a global scale.

If you could invite two or three people to dinner, who would they be, and what would you talk about? I would invite Martin Luther King Jr., Abdullah Öcalan, and Hamdi Ulukaya. Martin Luther King Jr.'s speech has been really impactful to me. I was truly inspired by listening to his speech. Abdullah Öcalan is a Kurdish leader, and I would ask him thousands of questions about the Kurdish movement and how he started fighting for the rights and independence of the Kurdish people. The last one is Hamdi Ulukaya, the owner of Chobani Yogurt. He is an American Kurdish immigrant. I would listen to his story about how an immigrant became so successful and created the number one yogurt brand in the US.

What challenges have you faced and how have you overcome them? I faced many difficulties from a young age, especially when I decided to leave my country at the age of seventeen. I had to leave because of my political views and beliefs. As a Kurd, it was hard to live in Turkey. The beginning of my journey in the United States was also difficult, especially because I didn't know English. It was very hard to explain simple things like being hungry. Another challenge was adjusting to a new culture and meeting new people. I had to live alone, but I never lost hope. Never ever! I always believed that bright days were coming. Now, when I look at my life, I see many people around me like family. I often say I left my family behind, but I have a new family here. I think I have fully adapted now because I watch American football, eat cheeseburgers, drink Dr Pepper, and listen to Taylor Swift. I enjoy these things now. :)

Who's your hero and why? My hero is my auntie Cihan Zilan because she was a fierce advocate for the rights and freedom of the Kurdish people. She was deeply involved in the struggle for Kurdish independence, dedicating her life to fighting for the recognition and autonomy of the Kurdish people in their home regions. Sadly, I lost her during this fight. Her courage, determination, and selflessness left a lasting impact on me. She believed in justice and equality, and she was willing to sacrifice everything, including her life, for a cause she believed in. To me, her strength and commitment to standing up for what is right makes her my hero. She showed me the true meaning of resilience and the importance of fighting for the rights and freedom of others, no matter the cost.

Senior Spotlight - Quinzi Williams



People/Pets in your family: Nancy (mom), Robert (dad), Dizzy and Bella (dogs), and Nacho (cat).

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

The best part of my high school career definitely has to be my 2024 swimming season. I was able to meet so many new people and spend a lot of time with my friends. The community that I was able

to be a part of was something that was really special to me. Finally getting to a place where my hard work started to pay off also felt really good.

What is your proudest moment in high school so far? My proudest moment in high school definitely has to be when I finally made a gold cut time for swimming. I worked really hard for a long time to get to where I was able to do that and it felt really good to finally see it happen.

What are your plans after high school? My plan is to attend Le Moyne college this fall where I'm going to study accounting. After that I plan on trying to build myself a good career and maybe one day make my own accounting firm. I'll also be swimming a lot.

Where do you see yourself in ten years? I see myself married with a few dogs and a career that's on a good track.

If you could invite two or three people to dinner, who would they be, and what would you talk about? I would invite Carl Sagan and Stephen Hawking because I'd like to talk to them about the science of the universe. I think it would really be interesting to talk about the universe with the people that have the greatest understanding of it. Getting the opportunity to talk about the final frontier with those two would be a really amazing experience.

What challenges have you faced and how have you overcome them? I've faced challenges with my confidence throughout the years. I learned to overcome it by proving to myself that I'm able to do things that I am initially unsure about. I really focused on trying to prepare and make sure that I'm ready for the challenges I'm going to face in the future.

Handicap signs have been installed at the JSHS near the athletic wing. Now, no matter the weather, the signs are clearly visible. Thanks to Officer Lamoureux and Jerry Bishop for facilitating this!



Daring to Donate



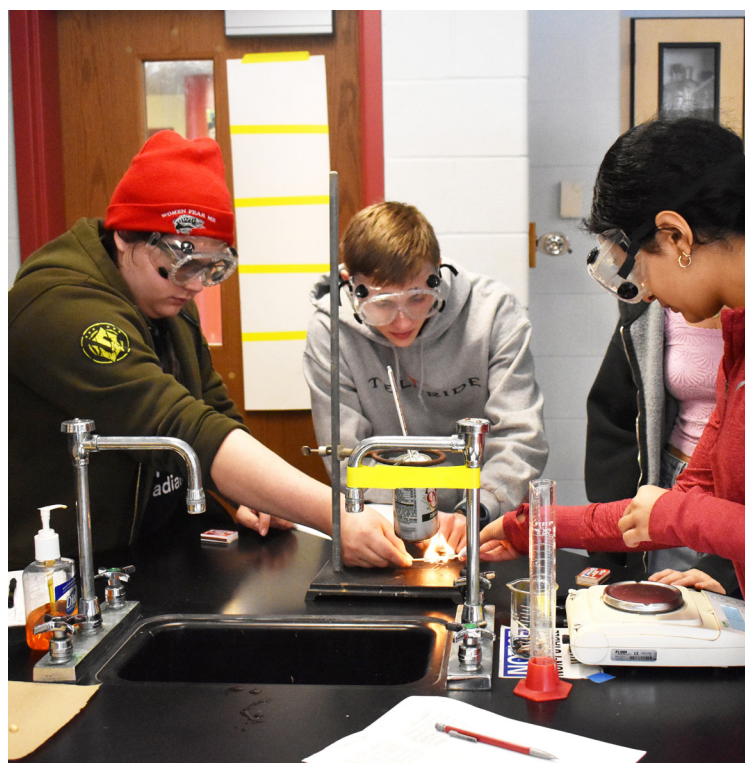
The National Honor Society sponsored their third blood drive in recent years at the JSHS, allowing students age 16 and up to donate. Many students signed up to donate for the first time, and while we saw nerves, they followed through with their pledge. Officer Lamoureux helped keep the atmosphere light for those who needed a distraction, and NHS members pulled up a chair and sat with those who preferred a little camaraderie. Seeing the support students gave each other was heartwarming to the staff. Each donor had the potential to help three people in need and received a t-shirt for their efforts. The NHS dared to set the highest personal goal they ever have for the amount of blood they wanted to donate, which was 28 units. They were able to complete that goal with almost fifty people signing up, and were very excited to make a difference in so many lives.

Student CSI



Forensics students are honing in on their novice crime scene investigation particularly in the blood spatter pattern field. After learning about how blood can create intricate patterns, each student had to create their own blood spatter pattern using different materials like shoes, clothing, body prints, and other materials to add to an investigation assignment. The rest of the class then had to identify at least fifteen different spatter patterns and how they were made. Many of them were tough to identify as the students making them got creative. They then had to document them and decide what the cause of death potentially was.

That's Nuts!



Chemistry students participated in a lab where they burned different types of nuts to see which one would provide the most energy for a protein bar. By burning them, they could measure the heat that they gave off which would help determine how much energy they contain. Using soda cans, they lit each type of nut on fire below and measured the heat in the can that was produced in joules. Out of cashews, almonds, peanuts, walnuts, and pecans, students found that walnuts and pecans are the highest energy producers. Isn't that nuts?

From the Superintendent



This month, the Tully CSD Board of Education will vote to adopt the proposed 2025-2026 budget to put out to the community. The proposed budget for the upcoming year maintains all current programming for our students, and keeps the local tax levy at the tax cap. We understand that our community members work hard to support our schools, and we want to make sure that our budget reflects our commitment to responsible and effective stewardship

of those resources.

The remaining budget timeline is below:

- ♦ April 21, 2025: Nominations for BOE seats due
- ♦ April 21, 2025: BOE Meeting (6 p.m. - JSHS)
- ♦ Review of Overall Budget, Budget Adoption
- ♦ May 6, 2025: Public Budget Hearing (6 p.m. - JSHS)
- ♦ May 20, 2025: Budget Vote/Election, Annual Meeting

All community members are invited and encouraged to attend this year's Public Budget Hearing on Tuesday, May 6, 2025, at 6 p.m. at the Junior-Senior High School. The Public Budget Hearing provides an excellent opportunity for community members to learn about the proposed budget and ask questions and/or provide feedback. We welcome all input from the community as we strive to develop a budget that reflects the needs and values of our district. We believe that this proposed budget will help us continue to provide our students with an excellent education.

As always, thank you for your continued support, and feel free to contact me directly should you have any questions.

Darcy Woodcock, Superintendent • Phone: 315.696.6204
Email: darcy.woodcock@tullyschools.org

Board of Education Meetings

Meetings commence at 6:00 p.m. in the Junior-Senior High School Library unless otherwise specified.

Additional Special Meetings to be scheduled as needed. The planned schedule for Board of Education meetings for the 2024-2025 school year is as follows:

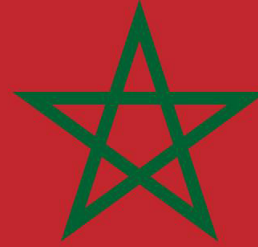
April 21, 2025 (Monday)
 May 6, 2025
 May 20, 2025
 June 17, 2025



2024/25 Board Members

2025	Mrs. Ryan Chatfield	boe.rchatfield@tullyschools.org
2027	Ms. Donna Doody	boe.ddoody@tullyschools.org
2027	Mr. Jeffrey Phelps	boe.jphelps@tullyschools.org
2025	Mrs. Bettemae Russell	boe.brussell@tullyschools.org
2026	Ms. Cheryl Wayne	boe.cwayne@tullyschools.org
2027	Mr. Edward Wortley, II	boe.ewortley@tullyschools.org
2026	Vacancy	

Culture Corner Morocco



Did you know that films like *Gladiator*, *The Mummy Returns*, *Mission Impossible*, and *Casablanca* are all movies that were filmed in Morocco? In fact, Morocco has the second largest film set in the world, just shy of Hollywood. Ironically, Morocco is about as large as California as well. Morocco is located in Africa and borders the Atlantic Ocean and the Mediterranean Sea. Here, visitors can ski high up in the Atlas Mountains, enjoy the scenic beaches, or ride camels in the Sahara Desert - very diverse! It is also where our Spanish students will visit during their 2026 Spain trip since Morocco is just a ferry boat ride away from Spain. Moroccans enjoy a slower-paced life, drinking tea with family and friends. They also enjoy shopping at one of the many bazaars and visiting mosques. Marrakech is perfect for this. It is Morocco's fourth largest city, and is also known as "The Red City." It was built on red clay with the original buildings also being made of red clay. Now, the law says that all buildings there must be red; however, travel outside of Marrakech and you'll find that Morocco is vibrant with color and architecture.

Tully Free Library

tullyfreelibrary.org • 315-696-8606

Spring is in the air, and we are excited to see longer days and warmer weather! Our seed library is available; we are happy to help you with your home gardening this year! Make sure to visit us during your spring recess: we've got some fun plans for that week in the works!

We are also planning for an awesome summer reading program to go along with the theme of "Color Our World." We'll be updating our website and Facebook page with all the details regarding events and programs soon - make sure to check those out! We look forward to celebrating our library's 90th anniversary with the community next month as well!

TULLY CENTRAL SCHOOLS
20 State Street, Tully NY 13159

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TULLY CENTRAL SCHOOL EVENTS



APRIL

- 3 NJHS/NHS Induction, 6:30pm
PTO Meeting, 7pm
- 4 JSHS MP3 Ends
- 5 ACT off-site
- 7 JH/Mod Spring Sports Begin
- 8-9 NYS 3rd-4th Grade ELA Testing
- 11 No Late Buses
- 14-18 Spring Recess, No School**
- 21 BOE Meeting, 6pm
- 23-24 NYS 5th Grade ELA Testing
- 29-30 NYS 6th-8th Grade Math Testing
- 30-1 NYS 3rd-5th Grade Math Testing

Dates are subject to change. Please check our website for the most up-to-date information.

