

Issue:
February
2024



KNIGHT INSIGHT



The Grinch Visits TES



Students at TES got a big-hearted surprise before break. While our younger students often get excited when popular holiday figures make an appearance at the end of the year, many were just as excited when the Grinch made an appearance. He must have been making appearances in the area after his heart grew several sizes bigger, spreading holiday cheer to the younger students. While the middle school students were off campus for the day, the elementary students lined the halls to get a glimpse of the green fur passing by, and when he ambled through their specific hall, he was seen giving high fives as he went along. Word spread fast that the Grinch was not very grinchy but very nice indeed. By the end of his journey, students in the pre-k and kindergarten hall were brave enough to reach out and give a hug or two. Sweet moments initiated by students were captured as peers and teachers looked on, giving momentum to the others in the hall. By the time the Grinch left TES, lots of hearts swelled with holiday cheer.

Welcome Officer Ray!



A new and friendly face was welcomed to our campus in December. Housed at TES but seen among all students in both buildings, helping with traffic control, and attending home games, Officer Shannon Ray has been a wonderful addition to the Tully staff.

Before break, Officer Ray was spotted participating in crafting with some of our younger students. Mrs. Scully-Smith's class had finished reading *A Very Mercy Christmas* by Kate DiCamillo which is about a pig named Mercy and the quiet miracles the holidays can bring.

Students then got to be creative, making Mercy-themed crafts. Officer Ray is not only getting to know our students, forging relationships, and adding positivity to our school community, but is keeping us safe each and every day. Welcome, Officer Ray!

Athletic News

Spring Sports Dates:

JV/Varsity Spring Sports - Monday, March 11

JH/Modified Spring Sports - Tuesday, April 9

Family ID registration opens up 1 month prior to the start date.



Check out the new breakfast menu for Tully Elementary School on the cafeteria web page or under the media tab in ParentSquare.

Remember, all students eat breakfast and lunch for free!



Principal's Message

Welcome to the second semester! We ended January and will begin February with theatrical performances. On January 30th, REV Theatre visited to perform for our primary (K-2) grades. Now we start the month with our school musical, *Finding Nemo, Jr.*, holding shows on February 2nd and 3rd. Show reviews and pictures to come in the next issue.

In P2 this month, students will learn about humility, love, and cheering others' successes.

Remember, there is no school Monday, February 19th - Friday, February 23rd for the mid-winter break. Enjoy the time away!

Edward Kupiec, ES Principal • Phone: 315.696.6213

Middle Schoolers Attend SU Game

Fifth and sixth graders took a trip on the last day before the holiday break to attend a women's SU basketball game at the JMA Wireless Dome with 8,000 other school-aged spectators. Anticipation and excitement filled the halls before they left. Students donned SU jerseys or Tully shirts, along with tutus, face paint, and hats that represented SU. Loading the buses with their lunches, they buzzed about the game ahead. For some, this would be their first time to watch a basketball game live. It ended up being an energized game with SU winning 85-43. Students were also excited that Mr. Meixell participated in a short interview on Spectrum News. It was a great way to spend the day with friends before the break.



Gingerbread Realtors

For some fourth grade students, there might be a career as a realtor in their future. Before the holiday break, students had the task of creating a cardboard gingerbread house from small boxes such as tissue boxes or snack boxes in which they would try to "sell" to others. Students adorned their houses with winter decorations and small items, and some even added greenery - whatever they thought would make their gingerbread house appealing to the buyers. They then had to write a listing for their gingerbread house that detailed the selling features. With so much creativity and skillful writing, many gingerbread houses were fit for sale. To wrap up the project, students made real gingerbread houses with graham crackers, icing, and small edible items to bring home with them. What a yummy treat after all that hard work!

Principal's Message



It is hard to believe that half of the school year is gone and we have finished our first semester. The second semester is full of new experiences for all of our students, as new half year courses have begun. Our seniors are focused on graduation and finishing their last semester at Tully. Graduation this year takes place on Friday, June 21st. The remainder of the student body should have their attention on both their academics and extracurricular activities. Now is a wonderful time when every student has the opportunity to work with their teachers and make great academic gains.

This is also the time when students sit down with their counselors and begin making their schedules for next year. The Tully Junior-Senior High School Counseling and Career Center will begin this process and register students for classes for the 2024-2025 school year. Mrs. Newton has been going to the elementary school and meeting with the sixth graders as they get ready to come to the junior-senior high school and has been doing presentations for eighth grade students and their parents as they transition to high school. Eleventh grade students and their parents will meet individually with Mrs. Davin to work on their schedule and discuss post-graduation plans. Counselors will work on schedules with seventh, ninth, and tenth graders throughout the spring.

I encourage all families to sit down and discuss with their student(s) the courses that they plan to take next year. The full program of studies that we offer at Tully Junior-Senior High School can be found on the junior-senior high school webpage by clicking on the Counseling and Careers tab and then scrolling down to documents and clicking on the full programs of studies link. Please call the office at 315.696.6235 if you have any questions. Happy February!

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

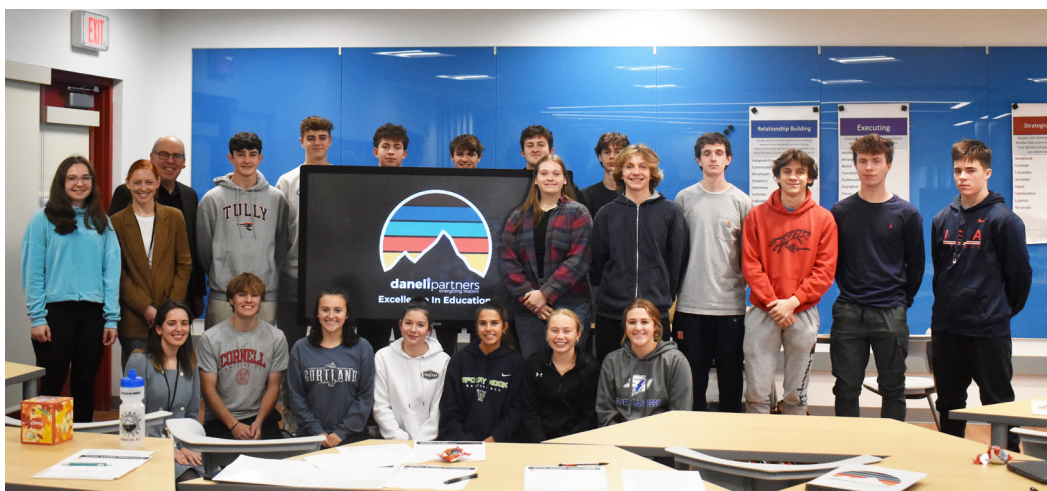


Tully Students Among Best and Brightest

Two Tully students were named among syracuse.com's Best and Brightest, an annual award given to accomplished seniors. By self-nomination, students submit applications, an essay, letters of recommendation, a detailed portfolio, and a personal narrative to be considered for this award. This year, both Rachel Daddona and Ella Hall were chosen, along with twenty-one other Section III seniors. Sponsored by Upstate Honda Dealers Association, those chosen for the award received a certificate and goody bag at a banquet held in their honor, and were featured in The Post-Standard and on syracuse.com. The purpose of this award is to celebrate and showcase how local seniors have excelled and made an impact on their community. These students have gone above and beyond for their community and Tully is proud of them!

Learning to Lead

This is the second year that the JSHS has participated in Daneli Leadership training with Paul Muench and it is gaining ground. This program was open to tenth through twelfth graders that posed an interest. Students were able to find out more about this leadership opportunity during the Activities Fair in September or by speaking with one of the advisors. Twenty-one high school students then began training in November, learning Gallup research based leadership skills. Seniors are recurring members, juniors were chosen by leadership advisors, and sophomores are class representatives. The purpose of this training is for students to know their own strengths and how to use those strengths to be leaders among their peers. The hope is that the JSHS will have many students that take on leadership roles to facilitate a positive and engaging atmosphere throughout the school. The next training for these young leaders will be in February.



Senior Spotlight - LUKE DOODY



People/Pets in your family: Leo (dad), Lauren (mom), Gabby, Tessa, Shannon (sisters), Nate, Leo (brothers)

What has been the best part of your high school career and why? Being part of the musical *Sound of Music* because it's something new and I got to meet new people.

What have you learned from the activities you have participated in at school?

I have learned that it is good to work with different people and get to know them.

What is your proudest moment in high school so far? Winning third place in the Halloween costume contest. I dressed as the president and had bodyguards.

What are your plans after high school? I am going to OCC to live on campus and study computer science.

If you could invite two or three people to dinner, who would they be, and what would you talk about? I would invite Elon Musk and Leonardo da Vinci. We would talk about all their experiences.

What challenges have you faced and how have you overcome them? My mobility and independence. I have been working on that for years.

Who's your hero and why? My dad because he keeps me on my toes and he always wants what is best for me.

Recycle, Reduce, Reuse



Environmental Club wrapped up a clothing drive at the beginning of December, filling over five large boxes and several shopping bags. Donations included coats, shoes, and pants, among other items of varying sizes. This club emphasizes recycling, reducing, and reusing to better our planet, and redistributing clothes definitely fits that description. All donations were taken to St. Leo's. This donation drive came shortly after the District's clothing giveaway, showing us that Tully has no end to their love for their community!

Senior Spotlight - MICHAEL WALKER III



People/Pets in your family: I have a large family with 5 siblings and 4 dogs. I am the oldest of all of them, and believe it is my responsibility to show them the truth and keep them honest. I must make sure they know that it is okay to make mistakes and to keep to themselves when they want; nobody should have to be forced to bleed for others unless they know that what they bleed for is right.

What is your proudest moment in high school so far? Being able to put my focus back on school after remote learning. It isn't much, but I'm proud of it.

What are your plans after high school? I'm hoping to go to college. After that, getting a well-paying job as an architect and living comfortably by my standards.

What challenges have you faced and how have you overcome them? I don't feel I've faced many challenges and believe that the hardest is yet to come.

Who's your hero and why? I have many heroes to thank for helping me, but I would like to keep them to myself and thank them privately; I know it's what they would want. They are the ones I look up to and hope to be as good as one day.

Extraordinary Talent x3



We have always had lots of talent here at Tully, but how often do we have talent times three? In December, Nate Houghton was showcased on Carrie Lazarus's "Extraordinary Talent" segment on cnycentral. The best part, Nate got to share it with his brothers. The triplets were filmed at home with Nate playing a complicated piece on the piano, Nicholas sharing his fast-handed reflexes with a Rubix cube, and Noah showing his impressive technology skills with a 3D printer. The triplets were interviewed about their extraordinary talents and their personalities. Friends who know the triplets and watched the segment, got a glimpse at the talents the Houghtons hold and agree with how the boys described themselves. Even though they are similar in many ways and share many of the same friends, their talents and personalities really show their individuality. How extraordinary!

Craft Fair Fun



The JSHS Student Council has been sponsoring the Craft Fair for nineteen years now and not only is it a lot of fun, it is successful for all. While Tully and the surrounding residents get to shop for their holiday gift giving, lots of students at Tully get to showcase their hard work and learn entrepreneurship skills while earning their clubs some extra cash. The JH Art Club sold handmade ornaments, phone holders, and tea-spoon holders. The SH Art Club held face painting, sold handmade clay trees, and ran a concession stand. The International Club made waffles from scratch with lots of toppings to try and the Spanish National Honor Society had their poinsettia pickup. Other students earned community service hours by helping crafters set up and clean up, run booths, making lunch runs for the crafters, and making sure everything ran smoothly. A fun addition this year, senior Jacob Verbanic made an appearance as Santa and maintenance supervisor Lew VanWagenen made an appearance as the Grinch to give the younger shoppers a treat to remember. What fun for all involved!

Board of Education Meetings

The planned schedule for Board of Education meetings for the 2023-2024 school year is as follows:

February 13, 2024

March 5, 2024

March 26, 2024

April 17, 2024

May 7, 2024 (*Public Budget Hearing*)

May 21, 2024 (*Budget Vote & Elections*)

June 11, 2024

Open Monday - Friday from 10 AM - 7 PM

Saturdays 10 AM - 2 PM • Closed Sundays

Tully Free Library

tullyfreelibrary.org • 12 State Street • 315-696-8606

Winter is a great time to curl up with a new book! We've added quite a few new titles to our J, YA, and children's picture book sections. We also have some read and play kid's activity backpacks available, and our book bundles are back on the shelf! Each bundle has its own theme and comes with a set of four or five picture books.

February is Black History month, and you can find a selection of related books and DVDs at our library to help you learn more about how people of color contributed to our country.

Winter is also a great time to work on puzzles, have a family game night, or a family movie night! Stop in to see how we can help you have fun at home this season!

Character Call Out

Here at Tully, we are proud of all our students. They make strides every day to learn and grow. We spotlight them for making the honor roll, earning Student of the Month awards, winning various academic awards, making the teams in athletics, participating in extracurricular activities, and joining clubs.

Some students, however, are quieter in their day-to-day activities. They go about their day, completing their tasks with what seems to be little acknowledgement. We want students to know this is not the case. We see you. We see the hard work and effort all students put into their everyday educational and social growth. We see the small things that students do when they think no one is looking.

Because of this, we want to acknowledge these students that have been seen doing something extraordinary for themselves, their classmates, or another person while on campus whether it was stepping out of their comfort zone or going out of their way to help one another. We are proud of you!

TES

June Adams
Beau Brown
Cassidy Charette
Bryn Cincotta
Veronica Coon
Emmett Dando
Edison Derbyshire
Colt Doody
Georgia Flatt
Luke Fonte
Charlotte Hudon
Lila Keller
Autumn Kent
Stella Kite
Carter Latham
Byron Manning
Willow McElroy
Molly McLaughlin
Aiden Mosher
Rhiannon O'Meal

Josie Shaw
Delilah Stillman
Ethan Strine
Owen Wilson

JSHS

Vanessa Altman
Meadow Bassett
Abram Byers
Noah Collins
Shawna Gottstein
Jacob Kowalewski
Emma Leahey
Macy Mech
Antonio Morquecho
Patrick Pierce
Nathan Reid
Brie Rockwell
Lennon Shaw
Junior Taber
Jaxson Willis

2023/24 Board Members

2025	Mrs. Ryan Chatfield	boe.rchatfield@tullyschools.org
2026	Ms. Jessica McAnaney	boe.jmcananey@tullyschools.org
2024	Dr. Andrea Mourey	boe.amourey@tullyschools.org
2025	Mrs. Bettemae Russell	boe.brussell@tullyschools.org
2026	Ms. Cheryl Wayne	boe.cwayne@tullyschools.org
2024	Mr. Edward Wortley, II	boe.ewortley@tullyschools.org
2024	Vacancy	

Safety Tips From Your SROs

Due to the time of year, please be aware of the daily temperature and dress accordingly. **Even if snow is not present, be aware that sidewalks may still be icy.**

Drivers on campus need to make sure that ALL windows are clear of snow and ice to see clearly. This is not only good practice, but also the law. The speed limit on campus is **15 mph** at all times.

Elementary parents should make every effort to **un/load children from the passenger side** of the vehicle when dropping/picking up. This may require you to adjust seating with boosters/car seats/etc. Also, please say your good-byes at the vehicle – do not leave your vehicle unattended to walk children to the door when on the circle.

Private Transportation

Requests Due By April 1st

NYS 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 must be made annually and 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: Jamie Wortley, Tully Central School District, Business Office, 20 State St, Tully, NY 13159 no later than April 1, 2024.

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, 2024. Each winner will be elected for three-year terms from July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2027 at the annual school district election to be held on May 21, 2024.

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, Tully Central School District Offices, 20 State St, Tully, NY 13159 no later than 5:00 p.m. on April 22, 2024. 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.

General eligibility requirements for school board candidates under the law are: **a citizen of the United States; at least eighteen years of age; a qualified voter in the school district.**

Prospective Board Member Candidate packets will be available beginning on February 1, 2024. If you would like a Prospective Board Member Candidate packet, please contact the district office at (315) 696-6204 or email jeanette.neadom@tullyschools.org

From the Superintendent



In 2019, the Commissioner of Education and Board of Regents established the Blue Ribbon Commission, tasked with studying graduation measures required of students in high school. Recently, the Commission presented twelve key recommendations to the Board of Regents. These recommendations are as follows:

- 1) Replace the three diploma types with one diploma, with the option to add seals and endorsements.
- 2) Include civic responsibility (ethics); cultural competence; financial literacy education; fine and performing arts; science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) credit(s); and writing, including writing skills for real-world scenarios in diploma credit requirements.
- 3) Ensure access to career and technical education (CTE), including internships and work-based learning opportunities for all students across New York State.
- 4) Move to a model that organizes credit requirements— including content area credit requirements— into larger categories (e.g., mathematics and science courses could be included in the “STEM” category).
- 5) Reduce and/or modify diploma assessment requirements to allow more assessment options.
- 6) Create state-developed rubric(s) for any performance-based assessments allowed as an option to satisfy the diploma assessment requirements.
- 7) Create more specific, tailored graduation requirements to address the unique circumstances of certain groups of students (e.g., non-compulsory age students, newcomer students, refugee students).
- 8) Provide exemptions from diploma assessment requirements for students with significant cognitive disabilities and major life events and extenuating circumstances (e.g., medical conditions, death of a family member, trauma prior to sitting for a required exam).
- 9) Pursue regulatory changes to allow the discretion to confer high school degrees posthumously.
- 10) Require all New York State teacher preparation programs to provide instruction in culturally responsive-sustaining education (CRSE) practices and pedagogy.
- 11) Require that professional development plans include culturally responsive-sustaining education practices and pedagogy.
- 12) Review and revise the New York State learning standards.

These recommendations represent a comprehensive effort to adapt our education system to better serve the needs of our student population. The Board of Regents will now study the twelve recommendations and develop a timeline for implementation. I will keep you informed of upcoming changes to graduation requirements and can confirm that none of these changes will be in effect for our 2024 graduates.

Thank you for your ongoing support and engagement in the Tully Central School District. Together, we can continue to provide an excellent education for our students.

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

Culture Corner Philippines



Did you know that the Philippines is made up of over 7,000 islands? Many have not been “discovered” and named yet so if you are an explorer at heart, this may be a possible future expedition! The Philippines is located in Asia in the Ring of Fire where twenty-two active volcanoes reside, and there are approximately four earthquakes per day with one averaging over a 6.8 magnitude each year. Earthquakes can be very scary but what about a 29 foot python? The reticulated python is not a mythical creature in the Philippines and is the longest snake in the world. While non-venomous, we are sure they would still scare those that don't fear even the most dangerous snake, but if you happen upon one, you would be in good hands. A quarter of the world's nurses are from the Philippines. On the cuter side, one of the smallest primates is native there. Tarsiers belong in the same family as monkeys, leap from tree to tree, and have very large eyes for night vision. Mort, a lemur from the movie *Madagascar*, is often mistaken for a tarsier. Another interesting fact is that the Philippines is considered the text capital of the world. While we are used to texting many times a day, they have “reached record levels of communicating via text” according to globaladmissions.com by using apps that do not require data or WiFi. One last interesting fact is that the Philippines is the only country in the world that flies their flag upside down when in times of war. What an amazing piece of symbolism! Check out more about the Philippines in your history classes, the library, or with fellow students who have ties there!

TULLY CENTRAL SCHOOLS
20 State Street, Tully NY 13159

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



TO: LOCAL POST OFFICE BOXHOLDER
OR RURAL ROUTE PATRON

TULLY CENTRAL SCHOOL EVENTS

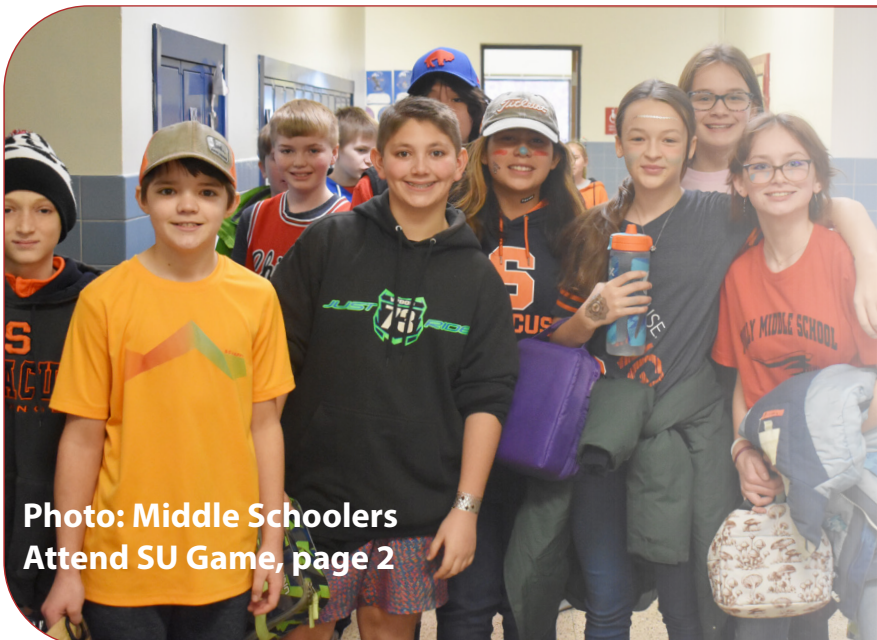


Photo: Middle Schoolers
Attend SU Game, page 2

FEBRUARY

- 2 TES Musical, 7:00 p.m.
- 3 TES Musical, 2:00 p.m.
- 7 Curriculum Wednesday
No Late Buses
8th Grade Parent Night, 6:00 p.m.
- 10 ACT (off-site)
- 13 BOE Meeting, 6:00 p.m.
- 15 Tri-M Talent Show, 6:00 p.m.
- 16 No Late Buses
- 19-23 Winter Recess
- 27 TES MP2 Ends

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



@tully_csd



Tully Central
School District



tully_csd