

Issue:
July
2025



KNIGHT INSIGHT



Cheering On Our Fellow Olympiads



The end of May brought several chilly and rainy days to Central New York but the day of the third annual Cortland County Olympiad was clear and warm with many students excited to partake in the festivities. Tully CSD had fifteen students participate in games while the National Junior Honor Society students tagged along as volunteers. Before the students left, TES students and staff lined the walkways with poster boards, words of encouragement, and lots of bubbles! Music played as the student athletes made their way around the courtyard being cheered on by their fellow peers. Students in the STAR program housed at TES also attended the Olympiad and joined in on the celebration beforehand. After loading up in the buses, they headed to SUNY Cortland for the day.

Student athletes spent the day alongside other students from neighboring schools and BOCES programs getting their face painted, enjoying snacks, and competing in fun events like dashes, tosses, and bike races. Parents watched on joyfully as their students enjoyed the day and staff members participated alongside them. What an enjoyable and memorable experience for those involved!



Principal's Message



Even though it is ten percent of the school year, June always seems to fly by. The month was filled with concerts, a book fair, field trips, outdoor activities, field days, and of course end-of-year celebrations. I want to thank all staff, students, and parents for making this year such a great success and wish the Class of 2032 all the best as they are now junior high students.

Without a grade level move or major construction, TES may be a bit quieter this summer than in the last few years. Please make sure you are connected to ParentSquare. I will keep you up to date on important happenings as we move through the summer. Our main office will be open Monday - Thursday from 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. during July and August. Enjoy the start of summer and mark your calendars for Back to School Night on Tuesday, September 2nd from 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.!

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TED Talks



This spring, our fifth graders completed an exciting new unit called *Social Media – Why Can't I Post That?* that explored the impact that social media has on mental health and one's well being. The two-month unit began mid-March with research and wrapped up with students delivering their own TED Talk-style presentations at the JSHS in the LGI. Mrs. Pickard, fifth grade ELA teacher, combined a Social Studies inquiry with English Language Arts and digital citizenship standards, helping students connect these important ideas. Students learned what social media is, their rights and responsibilities online, the risks of cyberbullying, and how digital content can affect mental health. Working in groups, they researched an app such as Facebook, Instagram, or SnapChat, wrote scripts, and created Canva presentations to share their findings. Students touched on when and how their particular social media was formed, the pros and cons of the app, the risks and negative impacts of using that particular app, tips for using the app if and when they are allowed to, and cyber bullying within the app and how to handle it correctly. The goal was for students to understand the power of their words, think critically about social media, and become responsible digital citizens. Students took great ownership of their work and impressed everyone with well-researched, thoughtful presentations. We're proud of their amazing effort and excited to see them continue growing as informed digital citizens — one TED Talk at a time!

Fifth Grade Heads to JSHS for Welcome Day



The fifth grade began gearing up to transition to the Junior-Senior High School at the end of the school year. Counselors from the JSHS began to meet with them on their campus to talk about scheduling and what to expect at their new school. Then they went to the JSHS for Fifth Grade Welcome Day in June where they participated in activities with Teen Institute members, heard from a sixth grade panel, took tours, and met several teachers. While some students seemed a bit nervous, others took in the newness of their surroundings. The Teen Institute did a great job of helping them team build, find their way around the school, and realize that they would have familiar faces and helping hands next time they came into the building. Sixth grade and special area teachers went over expectations and alleviated any concerns that came up. A sixth grade panel of students discussed what they enjoyed about the JSHS and went over what their day-to-day schedule looked like. All in all, the fifth graders had a good look into what next year holds for them.



A Powerful Message Before Prom



Every other year, Teen Institute coordinates a mock wreck for students to witness the potential devastation driving under the influence/distracted driving can cause, and then the other years they designate a speaker. Last year we held a mock wreck, so this year Wendy Peters who is part of the Onondaga County Stop DWI victim panel, came to speak to all tenth through twelfth graders on her experience. She spoke on the importance of people's choices and how they can affect not only themselves but so many others around them. She had chosen to get into a vehicle with someone who had been drinking and ended up in a coma for two weeks due to a car accident. When she woke up, she had no memory of not only the crash, but her two young sons. Due to her head injury, she couldn't hold a job and went on partial disability. She professed that she is reminded of the tragedy every day due to the scars she has and that "devastation lasts a lifetime." Not only was she and her family affected by the accident, but the friends and families of the two people who died that night were also affected. Twenty-six years after the accident, she received a message from one of the first responders on scene. The first responder had not known if she had pulled through or not, all those years ago, but stumbled upon her story online and reached out. They told her how traumatic that night was for them. Grateful that we had someone to share their story with our students, the students took her message to heart, signed a prom pledge to make good choices, and had a fun and safe time at and after prom.

Speaking of prom, students danced their night away at this year's prom "Midnight Masquerade" held at Greek Peak. After dinner and dancing, those nominated for prom court were announced. Junior Taber and Ella Lund were chosen as prom king and queen. Gwyneth Wilbur, Bryce Keller, Aurora Randall, Ava Nash, Julian Shay, and Jack Sofranko made up the court. Afterwards, many students stayed for the After the Prom party at Cascades, Greek Peak's indoor water park. There, students had fun in the water, played arcade games, and won prizes. Parents did an amazing job planning and the students seemed to have loved it!

Thank you to all who made this a safe and successful prom season for our students!



Principal's Message



The Class of 2025 was sent off with a great commencement ceremony on Friday, June 20th. We are very proud of every member of the Class of 2025 and we are sure that they will all reach their future goals!

As our families and staff are hopefully enjoying a well deserved summer recess, our year-long staff is starting to focus on the 2025-2026 school year. The maintenance staff is working diligently to prepare the building and grounds for the start of interscholastic athletics and a brand new school year. Our counselors and clerical staff are busy ensuring that all students' schedules are ready for the fall. Curriculum work and supply ordering are also main focuses of the staff. We hope that all of the Tully community is able to enjoy the summer and spends time safely relaxing with friends and family!

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

New Senior Elective: Adulting



A new elective was offered to seniors this year called Adulting. This class focused on skills that would help them in their every day-to-day life whether they were headed to college or not. Students learned how to fill out job applications, create a resume, check their credit score, balance a checkbook, and bank digitally. They also learned domestic skills like how to iron a shirt and sew on a button. A cooking lab was conducted for students to learn how versatile cooking with eggs can be.

Students also took a field trip to a mechanic shop to learn how to change a tire, worked with a plumber to learn how to stop a leaky pipe, and attended a greenhouse workshop to manage planting items in a small space. They even visited a farm to see what processing chickens entailed. In addition, several guest speakers came to present a plethora of information. Hayes Agency spoke on different types of insurance and how they are used, SUNY Cortland presented on financial aid and the FAFSA for students that were college-bound, Ray and Company covered taxes, and Voya Financial Advisors touched on the importance of financial planning and investing.

While this year the class was on the smaller side due to it being new, there is anticipation for a larger class next year. We hope our seniors are leaving with some great skill sets!



Constructing for a Cause



Students in the Construction class stepped up to the task of building a new can and bottle shack for the continuation of clubs and activities to receive community donations throughout the year. Clubs and activities who receive the donations chipped in for the cost of supplies so the class could purchase all the materials from Tully Building Supply. The Construction students designed the new shack and got busy at the beginning of May so it could be ready to go for the summer. The project lasted about seven weeks, and in the end, the product looked amazing! A huge thank you to the Construction class for their skillwork and also to the community for their continuous support of our clubs and activities through their donations!

Spanish NHS Reads to Kindergarten



Spanish NHS students headed to the elementary to read to Kindergarten students, exposing them to the language of Spanish. Using *David Va a La Escuela* (David Goes to School), NHS members read in Spanish and then clarified the reading in English. The kindergarten students seemed intrigued at how two languages, one that was mostly unfamiliar, could mean the same thing. The kindergarten students weren't the only ones who had a positive experience. One NHS member recalled that, "It was so fun. They were all so cute!" The NHS began this endeavor last year and continued on this year with the hopes of expanding the initiative. Looking forward, they would like to use some of their budget to begin buying Spanish books from Scholastic to put on the shelves of the Kindergarten rooms so they can have a bilingual library. In addition, the NHS would love to read to their younger peers more often, making this initiative more of a community service within the schools. What a great way to begin immersing our younger students in a foreign language!

ATHLETICS NEWS

Fall Sports Start Dates:

JV/Varsity	August 18
Modified Football (7th-9th)	August 25
Junior High Cross Country and Soccer	September 3

Family ID registrations open up one month before start date:

JV/Varsity	July 18
Modified	August 3

All game schedules are located on the tully athletic webpage (www.schedulegalaxy.com)

****Modified and Varsity football practice will be at Tully JSJS this fall.***

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

Lyla Delles
Alayna DeRock
Colton DeRock
Elise Hammill
Everleigh Hennessy
Ethan Jones
Vaida Manning
Levi Miller
Trifley Shirtz
Benjamin Underwood
Marcy Walburger
Ayla Wood

JSHS

Logan Allen
Logan Bessette
Collin Brady
Abram Byers
Dalton Cook
Colman Hathaway
Brier Huggins
Marz Huggins
Elaina Iozzo
Charlotte Lamoureux
Adrian Langley
Emma Leahey

Madelyn Lund
Jackson McElroy
Ryan Rauber
Jillianna Rookey
Audrey Stillman
Junior Taber
Garrett Thompson
Quinlan Wykstra



Tentative 2025-26 Board of Education Meetings

Meetings are held in the Junior-Senior High School Library at 6:00 p.m. 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 or call the District Office at (315) 696-6204.

***July 2, 2025** @ 5:00 p.m.
(Reorganization Meeting /
Regular Meeting)

August 19, 2025

September 16, 2025

October 21, 2025

November 18, 2025

December 16, 2025

January 20, 2026

February 10, 2026

March 3, 2026

March 24, 2026

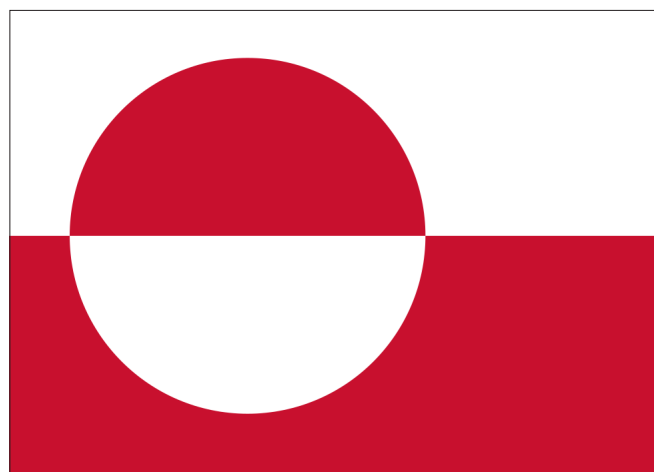
April 20, 2026 (Monday, due
to BOCES election and budget
vote)

May 5, 2026 (Budget Public
Hearing only)

May 19, 2026 (In addition,
Budget Vote 6 a.m. – 9 p.m.)

June 16, 2026

Culture Corner Greenland



Did you know that during the summer months the sun never sets in the Arctic Circle? This is known as the “mid-night sun” in Greenland, which two-thirds of it lies above the Arctic Circle. In the winter months, the sun is sparse, leaving the people in darkness. Greenland is actually the world’s largest non-continental island which is mostly covered in ice - it is three times as big as the state of Texas. Areas that are not covered in ice are tundra but the soil is mostly frozen which makes it almost impossible for much to grow. Because there are no roads there, people travel by boat, plane, snowmobile, or are pulled by dog sleds. Most of the wildlife live in the seas such as polar bears, walruses, whales, and seals but some animals such as wolves, reindeer, and oxen live on the ice sheets. Many bird species also live there, surviving on ocean life. Sometimes in New York it feels like winter will never end, but in Greenland, this is true as temps as low as negative thirty are common and it never heats up above forty degrees in the summer. Brrr!

2025/26 Board Members

2028	Mr. Shannon Brown	boe.sbrown@tullyschools.org
2027	Ms. Donna Doody	boe.ddoody@tullyschools.org
2026	Mr. Scott Hayes	boe.shayes@tullyschools.org
2027	Mr. Jeffrey Phelps	boe.jphelps@tullyschools.org
2028	Mrs. Bettemae Russell	boe.brussell@tullyschools.org
2026	Ms. Cheryl Wayne	boe.cwayne@tullyschools.org
2027	Mr. Edward Wortley, II	boe.ewortley@tullyschools.org

Tully Area Community Calendar

Looking for an easy way to stay informed about what's happening around Tully? Check out TullyNYevents.com, a community website that brings together local events and announcements in one simple place.

At the heart of the site is the Tully Area Community Calendar, where you'll find a wide range of happenings — from school events and library programs to farmers markets, meetings, music and arts events and more. It's updated regularly and easy to browse, whether you're planning your weekend or just curious about what's going on.

The calendar features contributions from local organizations, schools, businesses, and residents, making it a true reflection of our community. Have something to share? You can even submit your own events to help keep neighbors in the loop.

TullyNYevents.com is meant to be a shared resource — making it easier for all of us to stay connected and engaged. Take a moment to check it out at TullyNYevents.com.

Tully Free Library

tullyfreelibrary.org • 315-696-8606

Our Summer Reading Program, "Color Our World" has started, and it's not too late to register for our reading challenge! Sign up at the library and receive your packet and you can earn prizes for your reading! We have lots of fun programs scheduled this summer as well! Kids will enjoy Jeff the Magic Man on July 8, Princess Story Times on July 12, and crafts and more throughout the month. There are also special programs for teens and adults as well! Pick up a copy of our printed summer newsletter or check out our events calendar on our website online. "Color Our World" events continue throughout August. Tully Free Library is the place to be this summer and we look forward to seeing you here!

SCHOOL CENSUS – All Families with Small Children

This form is to be filled out by **all families with newborns to 5-year-old children living in the school district**. Please help us to update our records to ensure we have the proper staffing when your child(ren) attends our school district.

Please complete the form and return to: **Tully Central School District, Business Office, 20 State St, Tully, New York 13159**

ADULTS IN HOUSEHOLD

Last Name	First Name	Middle Initial	
_____	_____	_____	Male / Female
_____	_____	_____	Male / Female
_____	_____	_____	Male / Female
_____	_____	_____	Male /Female

CONTACT INFORMATION/PHYSICAL ADDRESS

MAILING ADDRESS _____

EMAIL ADDRESS(ES) _____

PHONE NUMBER(S) _____

LANGUAGE(S) SPOKEN IN THE HOME _____

CHILD(REN) IN THE HOUSEHOLD

Please check here if
your child receives early
intervention services

Last Name,	First Name,	Middle Initial	Date of Birth	Relationship	
_____	_____	_____	_____	Male / Female _____	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____	_____	_____	_____	Male / Female _____	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____	_____	_____	_____	Male / Female _____	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____	_____	_____	_____	Male / Female _____	<input type="checkbox"/>

TULLY CENTRAL SCHOOLS
20 State Street, Tully NY 13159

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U.S. POSTAGE
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Tully, NY
Permit No. 7



TO: LOCAL POST OFFICE BOXHOLDER
OR RURAL ROUTE PATRON

TULLY CENTRAL SCHOOL EVENTS



JULY

2 BOE Reorganization and Regular Meeting, JSHS, 5:00 p.m.

4 Offices Closed for Independence Day Holiday

Summer office hours for all Tully CSD offices:
Monday-Thursday,
8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

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



@tully_csd



Tully Central
School District



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