Issue: March 2023



# KNIGHT INSIGHT



### **Scholastic Art Achievements**



The Scholastic Arts competition is one that Tully students always excel in, and this year was no different. Several JSHS students submitted their work among 4000 other entries with the hopes of winning an award. With so much talent being recognized, freshman Bryce Keller was the only Tully student this year to secure a Gold Key for his stippling technique portrait of Mr. Paccia titled "Coach Paccia." Keller was recognized, along with other CNY students, for receiving the Gold Key in this highly competitive field at the SRC Arena in January.

Several other students received Honorable Mentions for their pieces: Garrett Hand for his untitled piece in the sculpture category; Aurora Randall for her drawing "Dad;" Sean Mize for his mixed media Leaf Project; Andrew Polak for his drawing titled "Cat" and his mixed media "Deep Sea Life;" Hayley Brenchley for her photograph "Eyeball;" Rachel Daddona for her printmaking called "Shape Face;" and Corinne Metz for her photograph "Sweeties."

All mentioned artwork was displayed on the OCC campus through the beginning of March. Congratulations to all our talented artists. We can't wait to see what is created next!





















# TULLY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

## **Tully Tempos Take on Syracuse Crunch**

The Tully Tempos, comprised of fifth and sixth grade choir students, were invited to sing the National Anthem, opening for a Syracuse Crunch game in January. Whereas some past students have had this fun memory, this was the first time since Covid hit for our students to take on this honorable task.

They practiced while in class and then shared their best singing voices with the Crunch team and their rivals looking on.

Students performed very well and should be proud of their efforts. Some students joined their parents and friends in the crowd to watch



the game afterward. Special thanks go out to Ms. Hill for making this a possibility for our students!

### Safety Awareness with Mr. Wintermute

Mr. Wintermute, TES' new SRO, has been busy on campus getting to know the kids. In addition to building rapport with them, he is giving them invaluable advice. During the gym classes of the third through sixth graders, he gave a safety awareness speech going over situational awareness, Internet safety, and the well-known adage "see something, say something." He feels that students of this age can be aware of things or people that might seem out of place and can help when adults might not take notice, encouraging students to be brave and speak up if they think something is not right. He also stressed the importance of keeping information private when on the Internet or on social media. Not giving out personal information such as name, age, and address are important for all students in their daily lives but is equally important for those who get online. Mr. Wintermute is helping our kids stay safe in more ways than one and the kids are enjoying his presence!



### **PTO News**

Hello! We hope that your winter season is going well and that the month of March comes in like a lion, but out like a lamb! We will soon be sending home information about our annual Read-a-thon. In the meantime, feel free to visit and join our Facebook Group, "Tully Elementary PTO," or the PTO page on the Tully School website for more information about PTO happenings.

TES PTO meetings are still being held virtually on the second Wednesday of the month, unless otherwise indicated. Our next meeting will be Wednesday, March 8, 2023. A link to the meeting will be sent out via email as well as posted on our Facebook page and via ParentSquare. All parents of TES students are welcome to attend. We are a 501(c)(3) organization and gladly accept tax exempt donations. Please inquire if you wish to make a donation. Thank you for your continued support of the TES PTO.



Help us thank our maintenance workers/grounds crew who work around the clock to keep our schools functioning and clean! Let's not only celebrate them on March 4, National Maintenance Worker Appreciation Day, but everyday! Also, let's send our thanks out to our diligent social workers that continuously care for our community's mental health and well-being on World Social Work Day, March 21st, and beyond!

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# Reciting Shakespeare: Choosing The (W)Right One



Each year, the Shakespeare Recitation Competition interests a handful of students and each year, the talent gets tougher to judge. This year, six students participated in front of four renowned judges, and all did exceptional jobs with their monologues. The emotion was palpable throughout the room and the students did not disappoint as their voices carried and their hand gestures were aplenty. Whenever competing, choosing the right character/monologue is important. Lucy Wright did just that. Wright took first by storm with her performance of Caliban from *The Tempest*. Her monologue was not only captivating and intriguing, but just about flawless as she knelt low performing the creature. Jack VanBeveren took second place with his strong rendition of Antony from *Julius Caesar* and Sarah Kuty took third with her version of Tamora from *Titus Andronicus*. Only Wright will continue on to compete in March against all other Syracuse-area winners for the regional title.

### **Seniors Strike!**



The annual senior holiday trip and service project took place in January this year with students collecting donations once again for the SPCA. Seniors collected toys, food, cleaning supplies, and other pet items a few weeks before the trip. Then they boarded the bus to enjoy some time at Cort-Lanes to bowl. Several students and teacher chaperones showed off their bowling skills, making strikes. After the fun time, they enjoyed a meal at the Hollywood diner before returning to school for dessert. Normally, the senior class would drop off their much-anticipated donations to the SPCA and to see the animals but with the SPCA building under construction, they were unable to this year. The donations were taken by senior class advisor, Dawn Bishop, at a later date. All in all, the seniors had fun, the service was completed, and the memories were made.

# Themed Baskets Given to PEACE



The Junior High Student Council is always brainstorming how to use their funds and what service projects they can complete to help their community out. This year, they chose to use a portion of their funds raised from the Craft Fair to benefit PEACE, which in turn benefits those in our community. After shopping for some of the most-needed items within the community, the council put together themed baskets for PEACE to give away.

A total of twenty of the themed baskets were prepared and given to PEACE. The timing of this service was perfect as sometimes after the holidays, donations are at a low. What a great way to help our community!

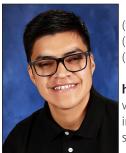
# **Spanish Art Walk**



Students in Mrs. Dubos' and Mrs. Cardoso's Spanish A classes got to enjoy a twist in their assignments when they participated in a Spanish art walk. The teachers laminated and posted multiple pieces of artwork by Carmen Lomas Garza throughout the hall and classrooms, creating a "gallery." This American artist dedicates her artwork to "depicting the lives of Mexican Americans based on memories and experiences in Texas" (carmenlomasgarza.com). Students then browsed the "gallery" with questions that they were to answer regarding each piece of art. Some questions were designed for the students to analyze the artwork or create an opinion, while others were to put their Spanish vocabulary to the test. The Spanish teachers walked around observing and helping create more interest by interacting with the students and asking questions about the artwork. This assignment not only had students working on their Spanish skills, but it also gave them a chance to experience museum etiquette and view art that they may not otherwise see.

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### **Senior Spotlight - Emerson Josue Santos**



**People/Pets in your family:** Efrain (father), Mirian (mother), Marlene and Kely (sisters), Boris and Kevin (brothers), Jonathan (nephew), and Canche (cat).

What has been the best part of your high school career and why? Meeting wonderful people and doing sports because in my life I had never experienced this in school.

What have you learned from the ac-

**tivities you have participated in at school?** I have learned about friendships, hard work, and that the things that seem scary can be fun and good for you.

Where do you see yourself in ten years? I don't know exactly yet. I'll let my plans come true with time and effort, but I hope to see myself as a better person in the future and with the things that make me happy, with family and friends.

If you could invite two or three people to dinner, who would they be, and what would you talk about? I would invite my parents not to just talk to them, but to be close to them again. They still live in Guatemala.

What challenges have you faced and how have you overcome them? I've had to overcome having to learn a new language, living in a new country, and having a different lifestyle, but with time I am adjusting better.

### **Senior Spotlight - Ian Rauber**



**People/Pets in your family:** Michelle (mother), Christopher (father), Brooke (sister), Ryan (brother), Sully (dog), and Benjy (cat).

What has been the best part of your high school career and why? The best part of my high school career has to be senior year. Even though senior year is known to be stressful, after learning how to handle the stress, this year has been the most enjoyable. (Including our senior trip which is always fun.)

Also, the friends I have made over the years make this year the most memorable.

What are your plans after high school? My plans after high school are pretty basic. I plan on going to college for computer science engineering and I plan on running in college. I haven't decided on a school yet but have made some college visits and recruiting trips.

Where do you see yourself in ten years? In ten years, I see myself hopefully going pro in running, but if not then working at a job that I really enjoy.

Who's your hero and why? My hero would have to be Brooke, my older sister. She has been through so much and has helped me through so much. Whenever I would train with her, she would push me to not just be a better runner, but to be a better person in general. She is an amazing person and I have always looked up to her. She has done so many amazing things that I wish I could do half of what she has accomplished.

### **ATHLETIC NEWS**

### **Tully & Southern Hills Spring Coaching Staff**

#### **Bovs Lacrosse:**

Head Varsity Coach - Stew Snyder Assistant Varsity Coaches - Zach Chawgo and Jeff Russell

Head Modified Coach - Dan Longnecker Assistant Modified Coach - Tommy Meixell Volunteers - Jason Shaw and Wesley Fecco

#### **Girls Lacrosse:**

Head Varsity Coach - Lindsay Byrnes Assistant Varsity Coaches - Brittany Clemens and Ally McNerney Head JV Coach - Kate Mahns Head JH Coach - Madison Lyon

#### Softball:

Head Varsity Coach - Bill Donald Head Modified Coach - Michele Maciejewski

#### Baseball

Head Varsity Coach - Don McClure Head Modified Coach - Don Mohat

#### Track & Field:

Head Varsity Girls Coach - Michelle Rauber Assistant Varsity Girls Coach - Kristin Ciereck Head Varsity Boys Coach - Jim Paccia Assistant Varsity Boys Coach - Emily Paccia Head JH Coach - Charlie Locke

Register
now on
Family ID for the
Spring Sports season!
https://www.tullyschools.org/athletics

Pictured here Otto and the Girls Varsity Basketball Team at the women's SU game on National Women in Sports Day



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## **Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Tully**

Since the 2021-2022 school year we have been working very hard to advance our Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion initiatives within our school community. As we move forward with our work, we are now more than ever committed to maintaining a diverse, equitable, and inclusive environment where all individuals feel valued and respected.

After adopting our Board of Education DEI Policy and Plan in April 2022, we quickly moved to form our DEI Committee. Currently, we have over 25 members including parents, teachers, administration, students, and BOE members. Committee membership is fluid and open, so we welcome anyone who is interested. One of the committee's first steps was to establish goals and core values for the current school year, which are:

#### Committee Goals for the 2022-2023 School Year

- Establish a deliverable message of what Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion means to our schools and community.
- Use the data from the 2022 School Surveys to develop an understanding of our school community and needs for the learning environment with a focus on gathering K-12 data in the future.
- Develop recommendations that can be used in school, at home, and in our larger community to promote a welcoming and affirming environment.
- Identify an assessment process involving all stakeholders to measure the effectiveness of DEI initiatives in the school community.

#### **DEI Committee Core Values**

- ♦ We believe in a safe, culturally rich environment that welcomes differences and individual uniqueness, with an understanding of diversity in our school community.
- We value differences by using words and actions that create an inclusive community where all can feel accepted and affirmed.
- We insist on a culture that promotes, values, and respects individual uniqueness through teamwork, openness, and our actions.
- We value an open, honest, and safe learning environment that fosters opportunities for all to be seen and heard, and to provide opportunities for everyone to reach their highest potential.
- ♦ We all recognize a common humanity and value life-long learning.

On Wednesday, December 7th the JSHS hosted a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) community forum. The purpose of this forum was to share updates on the school district's DEI initiative and provide opportunities for the school community to share feedback and ask questions. We are planning on scheduling another community forum in June to give our school community another update and opportunity to provide feedback. You can contact Paul Schiener, DEI Coordinator, at pschiener@tullyschools.org if you would like more information on joining the DEI committee or have specific questions regarding our initiatives. You can also learn more by visiting our DEI website under the Resources tab on the district website.

# **Nominating Petitions Available for Board of Education Positions**

Two terms of office on the Tully Central School District Board of Education will expire on June 30, 2023. Each winner will be elected for three year terms from July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2026 at the annual school district election to be held on May 16, 2023.

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 17, 2023 (This is a correction from the Feb. KI). 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.

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 will be available February 27, 2023. If you would like a nominating petition, please contact the district office at (315) 696-6204 or email jeanette.neadom@tullyschools.org

### 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, 2023.

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## From the Superintendent



During the January Board of Education meeting, five retirements were approved for the end of the 22-23 school year. We would like to take a moment to acknowledge and celebrate the upcoming retirement of our dedicated educators. Mrs. Monica Abrams, Mr. James Paccia, Mr. Stew Snyder, Mrs. Jennifer Trexler, and Mr. Nicholas Zupan have devoted their careers to shaping the minds and futures of countless young people and we are grateful for all they have

Mrs. Abrams has been an outstanding Spanish teacher for 30 years, with 15 of those spent in Tully. She has been an expert in her field and has been instrumental in promoting and integrating Spanish language and culture in the classroom. Similarly, Mr. Paccia, has been an innovative technology teacher and has served our community for an impressive 40 years. His dedication and passion for teaching have been evident in the students he has taught and

mentored during his tenure.

Mr. Snyder has been a dedicated special education teacher for 31 years, with 25 of those years spent in Tully. He has been a strong advocate for students with special needs and has been dedicated to providing the support and resources they need to succeed. His compassion and patience have been an inspiration to many students and staff. In addition, Mrs. Trexler has been a teaching assistant and valuable member of the teaching staff for 26 years. Her hard work and loyalty to supporting students have been invaluable to the community. Finally, Mr. Zupan has been an engaging social studies teacher for 28 years in Tully. Throughout this time, he has drawn students into the process of learning and promoted their desire to become contributing citizens.

Once again, we would like to take this opportunity to express our deepest gratitude and appreciation for our educators retiring at the end of this school year. Their contributions have been immeasurable, and they will be greatly missed by both the students and staff. Their legacy will live on in the hearts and minds of the students they have taught, and they will always be remembered as an important part of our community.

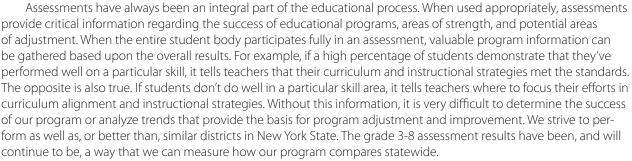
> Darcy Woodcock, Superintendent Phone: 315.696.6204 • Email: darcy.woodcock@tullyschools.org

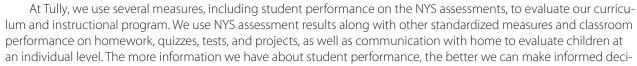
### From the Principals

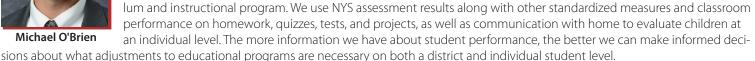


**Edward Kupiec** 

Exact dates for specific grade levels at Tully have not yet been determined as of press time, but this year's New York State Assessments in grades 3-8 will be administered across the state from April 19th - April 26th (ELA) and May 2nd - May 9th (Math). As reminders for parents, the number of test sessions for each grade level is two (2) days for each subject and all Tully students will take their assessments in the computer-based testing (CBT) format using Google Chromebooks, as we have been doing for several years. We are ahead of the curve here as New York State is mandating a transition to computer-based testing for state assessments in all subjects, grades 3-8. We are excited to see how our students perform regionally and statewide!







If you have any questions or concerns about assessments at Tully, or you wish to receive additional information, please contact your child's counselor, teacher, or principal.

> Edward Kupiec, ES Principal • Phone: 315.696.6213 • Twitter: @ekupiecTullyES • Email: ed.kupiec@tullyschools.org Michael O'Brien, JSHS Principal • Phone: 315.696.6235 • Email: mike.obrien@tullyschools.org

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### **Culture Corner** -



Did you know that Spain's National Anthem has no words? And for our younger readers, did you know that there is no tooth fairy in Spain? There is a tooth mouse though! This European country borders France, Portugal, and the Mediterranean Sea, and is located directly above the African continent. Its capital is Madrid. Spain has a plethora of culture with over 82 million tourists each year. Many animals live in Spain such as the wolf, lynx, fox, and deer. Fish such as trout and barbel are aplenty as well as migratory birds. Much of Spain's culture can be seen all over the world but food seems to travel many distances. One food that you might recognize are churros. All students at Tully receive Spanish as a foreign language, we have a Spanish National Honor Society, and we are labeled as a district that holds the Seal of Biliteracy. In addition, we have many native Spanish speakers, some of whom's roots are connected to Spain.

## **Health & Safety Reminders**

Due to the time of year, please be aware of the daily temperature and dress accordingly. The sun may be out more, but the temperatures are still well below warm. Keep those coats, pants, and mittens close!

The speed limit on campus is 15mph at all times.

More and more incidents with students are happening on the buses as the school year goes on. Teach your child to sit quietly on the ride to and from school. Behavior problems could distract the bus driver and result in an accident. It is important that our drivers are able to concentrate on driving the route safely.

# 2023 Board of Education Meetings

The planned schedule for Board of Education meetings for the 2022-2023 school year is as follows:

March 6, 2023

March 27, 2023

April 17, 2023

May 8, 2023

May 16, 2023

June 12, 2023

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.

# COMMUNITY NEWS

### **News from Tully Free Library**

**Free tutoring** help for 9th-12th graders in math and science is still available here at the library! Representatives from CNY Tutoring, LLC will be available here on Sunday mornings at 11 a.m. and Wednesday mornings at 10:30 a.m. to help students with those subjects.

We started **two new clubs** for kids in 4th–8th grade. **Videogame/Mine-craft Club** and **Art Club** take place after school on alternating Thursdays. This month we have **Lego building** on March 2nd and a special cosplay presentation during Art Club on March 16th with a guest speaker from Syracuse University. Please register in advance on our website for these programs.

Younger kids that aren't in school yet are welcome to join us for **Tykes Time Story Time** on Wednesday mornings at 10:30 a.m. Have fun with a story, sing songs, and play games!

**Teen Advisory Council** is starting up again! Students in grades 9-12 are invited to our Pizza and Planning Night on Thursday, March 30 at 5:30. Hang out and help us make some cool plans for summer reading and other programs! Check our website & Facebook pages to see what's new at the library!

### **Parks and Rec**

Parks and Rec **basketball** is in full swing with over 80 kids in 1st through 6th grade participating. Last month, some of our participants went to cheer on Tully's JV and Varsity basketball games at the JSHS. They loved being a part of the excitement! We would like to extend a huge thank you to Cooks Recreation Motorsports for their sponsorship this season.

We are now looking forward to spring **baseball** and **softball**. Our baseball program begins with our littlest athletes (Pre-k/k) playing t-ball right on up to our upper-class athletes playing in the Apple Valley Baseball and Softball league. Practices will begin the week of April 10th. You can register on active.com-town of Tully.

**Pickle ball anyone**? Wednesday evenings from 6:45 - 8:00 p.m. at the elementary school cafeteria gym you can join your fellow community members for some pickle ball action! Email tullyparksrec@gmail.com for more information.

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# TULLY CENTRAL SCHOOLS 20 State Street, Tully NY 13159



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TO: LOCAL POST OFFICE BOXHOLDER OR RURAL ROUTE PATRON

### **TULLY CENTRAL SCHOOL EVENTS**







