



## From the Desk of the Superintendent

Once again, our May issue of the *Knight Insight* provides important information about our educational programs and the proposed 2025-2026 school budget. The Board of Education has carefully crafted a responsible budget with a local tax levy increase of 2.03%, ensuring a balance between fiscal responsibility and maintaining excellent programming for our students.

This year, there are three key propositions on the ballot:

1. **General Fund Appropriations:** This proposition authorizes funding for the upcoming school year.
2. **School Bus Lease:** This proposition pertains to leasing buses to support our transportation needs.
3. **Tully Free Library Funding:** This proposition supports funding for the Tully Free Library, a vital resource for our community.

We encourage all community members to attend the public budget hearing on Tuesday, May 6, 2025, at 6:00 PM in the Junior-Senior High School library. This hearing will provide an opportunity to learn more about the proposed budget, our continued commitment to student programming, and allow for questions and discussion. Your input is invaluable as we work to develop a budget that meets the needs of our students, staff, and families while maintaining fiscal responsibility for our taxpayers.

Mark your calendars! The budget vote will take place on Tuesday, May 20, 2025, from 6:00 AM to 9:00 PM in the Tully Elementary School gymnasium.

Thank you for your ongoing dedication to our students and community. Your support is essential to ensuring the continued success of our schools.

*Sincerely, Darcy Woodcock, Superintendent of Schools*

## SCHOOL BUDGET VOTE

### MAY 20, 2025

Voting Hours 6:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Voting Location: Elementary School Gymnasium



## JSHS Presents 2025 Top Ten

Read the article on page 11



### PROPOSITION I

#### 2025/2026 PROPOSED BUDGET

**Proposed 2025-2026 Budget: \$23,670,494**

(see page 4 for detailed proposition)

### PROPOSITION II

#### STUDENT TRANSPORTATION

**Authorization to finance through lease agreement for school buses**

(see page 4 for detailed proposition)

### PROPOSITION III

#### TULLY FREE LIBRARY TAX

**Proposed 2025-2026 Budget: \$245,796**

(see page 4 for detailed proposition)

**(See pages 4-5 for more budget details)**

## Tully Elementary School Program

Tully Elementary School offers a comprehensive educational program in grades PK-5 to meet the academic, social/emotional, and behavioral needs of students. Our new English Language Arts curriculum, Really Great Reading, is rooted in the "Science of Reading" and evidenced-based practices. Math instruction is aligned with New York State's Next Generation Standards using the Saavas Investigations program. Our social studies program focuses on local, state, and national geography and content, and our science materials from the Smithsonian have recently been revamped. Students also receive instruction in art, music, and physical education, and participate in library. Students with special needs receive services as indicated on their Individualized Education Program (IEP) and we provide ELL services for students whose native language is not English.

To measure student progress, we benchmark students locally three times per school year and New York State testing occurs in ELA and math for third through fifth grade as well as science in fifth grade. Each student has access to their own Chromebook which provides access to a wealth of information, and both our ELA and math programs have engaging online companion programs that allow students to practice and improve individual skills. Off-site learning opportunities are also provided in the way of different field trips at each grade level.

Our social-emotional learning and safety education program is conducted using the Positivity Project, Second Step, and classroom sessions facilitated by our social worker. Tully also partners with Helio Health to offer an on-site mental health clinic for students and families. All classes incorporate tenets of Responsive Classroom.

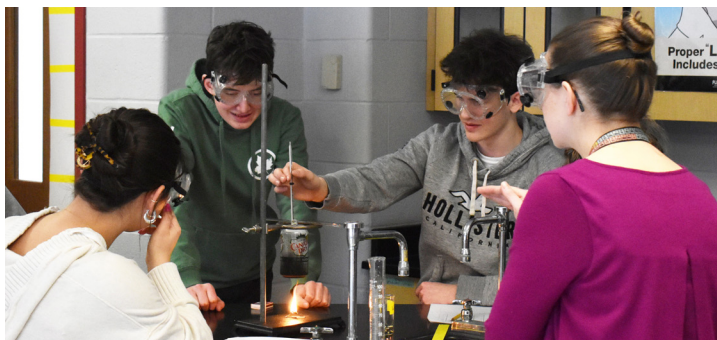
There are several co-curricular clubs and activities that students can take advantage of during their time at Tully Elementary. These include the Buddy Program, Art Club, Maker Club, Intramurals, Safety Patrol, Yearbook, Jazz Band, 3rd/4th Chorus, NYSSMA, and All-County. The fifth grade musical delights audiences and we promote school spirit and community service through events like food drives, special clothing days, and spirit weeks.

### Grades 3-8 NYS Assessments

### % Students Scoring at Levels 3 and 4 (Proficient)

		ELA 2022-23	ELA 2023-24	Math 2022-23	Math 2023-24	Science 2022-23	Science 2023-24
<b>Grade 3</b>	Tully CSD	53%	40%	49%	51%		
	NYS Average	45%	43%	54%	54%		
<b>Grade 4</b>	Tully CSD	56%	61%	61%	62%		
	NYS Average	49%	47%	54%	58%		
<b>Grade 5</b>	Tully CSD	29%	47%	47%	56%		42%
	NYS Average	45%	44%	50%	49%		35%
<b>Grade 6</b>	Tully CSD	46%	32%	56%	52%		
	NYS Average	46%	44%	48%	51%		
<b>Grade 7</b>	Tully CSD	46%	48%	48%	45%		
	NYS Average	48%	52%	52%	57%		
<b>Grade 8</b>	Tully CSD	68%	58%	58%	43%	59%	41%
	NYS Average	55%	41%	41%	41%	47%	34%

\* Due to Covid, 5th grade science testing was paused prior to 2023-24.





## Junior-Senior High Academic Program

June is quickly approaching, and our seniors are busy making plans for what comes next after graduation. Hopefully, they are enjoying every minute that they have remaining in their Tully school careers. Graduation is on Friday, June 20th when we will celebrate the achievements of the Class of 2025 outdoors on the front lawn as long as the weather cooperates. If we have inclement weather, we will move the ceremony indoors to the auditorium on the same date. Almost all seniors will need credits in physical education, English, and Participation in Government to meet graduation requirements. I encourage all seniors to be vigilant, and make sure that they are completing all necessary coursework for graduation. Spring can be a hectic time for our seniors as they prepare for the next chapter of their lives after high school. Hopefully, all seniors enjoy traditions as they stay focused on academics, extracurricular activities, and all their future endeavors in the workforce, college, or military.

At Tully Junior-Senior High School, we are proud to offer a college and career-ready curriculum that provides students with the required courses for graduation and many electives. Students can challenge themselves by taking Advanced Placement courses in Statistics, Calculus, Physics, United States History, Biology, and Chemistry, as well as honors courses in English and Social Studies. Our 8th graders have the opportunity to take accelerated courses in Life Science and Algebra for high school credit. Several faculty members teach courses in Pre-Calculus, Business and Finance, Spanish, and English as part of our partnership with Onondaga Community College and College Algebra and Technical Math with Tompkins-Cortland Community College. We also have articulation agreements with SUNY Morrisville and SUNY Cobleskill for most of our agriculture courses. In order to provide our students with the best opportunities possible, new courses are planned in English and Social Studies for this upcoming year. Support is provided to those in need through the Learning Support Center and Special Education.

Tully JSHS offers thirty-three extra-curricular activities for our students to participate in. We also are happy to offer twenty-four varsity sports with many additional athletic opportunities at the junior varsity, modified, and junior high levels. At the junior-senior high school, we are proud to report that we have an 87% participation rate within the student body this year! We hope that all our community is enjoying a spectacular spring!

### New York State Regents Exams

		2022-23 Passing	2022-23 Mastery	2023-24 Passing	2023-24 Mastery
<b>Algebra</b>	Tully CSD	91%	20%	76%	4%
	NYS Average	65%	15%	62%	14%
<b>Geometry</b>	Tully CSD	85%	15%	83%	31%
	NYS Average	53%	14%	57%	16%
<b>Algebra 2</b>	Tully CSD	87%	18%	95%	20%
	NYS Average	64%	17%	74%	19%
<b>Living Environment</b>	Tully CSD	87%	41%	81%	31%
	NYS Average	66%	25%	62%	24%
<b>Earth Science</b>	Tully CSD	91%	49%	98%	61%
	NYS Average	65%	29%	67%	30%
<b>Chemistry</b>	Tully CSD	97%	25%	100%	25%
	NYS Average	65%	20%	65%	20%
<b>Physics</b>	Tully CSD	86%	64%	72%	17%
	NYS Average	68%	33%	74%	34%
<b>Global History</b>	Tully CSD	85%	27%	91%	52%
	NYS Average	74%	24%	77%	25%
<b>US History</b>	Tully CSD	90%	21%	88%	12%
	NYS Average	80%	21%	78%	18%
<b>English</b>	Tully CSD	93%	57%	90%	41%
	NYS Average	77%	38%	79%	39%

### Graduation Rates

	2022-2023	2023-2024
<b>Tully CSD</b>	85%	93%
<b>NYS Average</b>	87%	86%

#### Regents Diplomas with Advanced Designation

	2022-2023	2023-2024
<b>Tully CSD</b>	60%	65%
<b>NYS Average</b>	42%	33%



## Frequently Asked Questions

### Is the district “tax cap compliant”?

Yes, the proposed tax levy (before exclusions) is at the tax levy limit. A simple majority (50 percent plus one) is needed for budget approval. Being tax cap compliant means Tully Central School District property taxpayers will still receive either the Basic or Enhanced STAR exemption or credit.

### What does the property tax cap law mean for my tax bill?

It is important to remember that the tax cap law only determines how much voter support is needed to pass the budget. It does not impose a universal 2 percent cap – or any other specific amount – on taxes. It applies to the tax levy, not to tax rates or individual bills. Keep in mind, several factors dictate how an individual’s school tax bill is calculated after a school district sets the final tax levy—including changes in property values and equalization rates – none of which are within the district’s control.

**This calculation process did not change under New York’s property tax cap law.**

### What happens if the budget is not approved by voters?

If a proposed budget is defeated by voters, a school district has a couple of options: The school district could put the same budget up for a re-vote; the school district could decide to put a revised budget up for a vote; or, a school district could decide to adopt a contingent budget. If a proposed budget is defeated twice by voters, a school district must adopt a contingent budget. If a school adopts a contingent budget, some very specific items must be excluded, for example, funding for community use of the schools, certain types of specific salary increases, and new equipment purchases. Additionally, under our current “tax cap” legislation, a school district that adopts a contingent budget may not increase its current tax levy by any amount. This, in effect, translates into a zero percent tax increase.

## PROPOSITION I

Shall the Board of Education of the Tully Central School District be authorized to expend the sum of Twenty-Three Million, Six Hundred Seventy Thousand, Four Hundred Ninety-Four Dollars (\$23,670,494) as General Fund appropriations for the school year 2025-2026 and levy the necessary tax therefor?

## PROPOSITION II

### Student Transportation

Shall the Board of Education lease, finance four (4) 65 passenger school buses at an estimated cost not to exceed \$625,000, including necessary furnishings, fixtures and equipment and all other necessary costs incidental thereto and to expend a total sum not to exceed \$625,000, which is estimated to be the total maximum cost thereof, and levy a tax which is hereby voted for the foregoing in the amount of \$625,000, which shall be levied and collected in annual installments in such years and in such amounts as may be determined by the Board of Education and in anticipation of the collection of such tax, issue a lease of the district at one time, or from time to time, in the lease amount not to exceed \$625,000 and levy a tax is hereby voted to pay the interest on such obligations when due?

## PROPOSITION III

### Tully Free Library Tax

For the purpose of funding the Tully Free Library, shall the sum of Two Hundred Forty-Five Thousand, Seven Hundred Ninety-Six Dollars (\$245,796) be raised by annual levy of a tax upon the taxable real property within the Tully Central School District?

## CAPITAL OUTLAY PROJECT

### Ceiling and Lighting Replacement

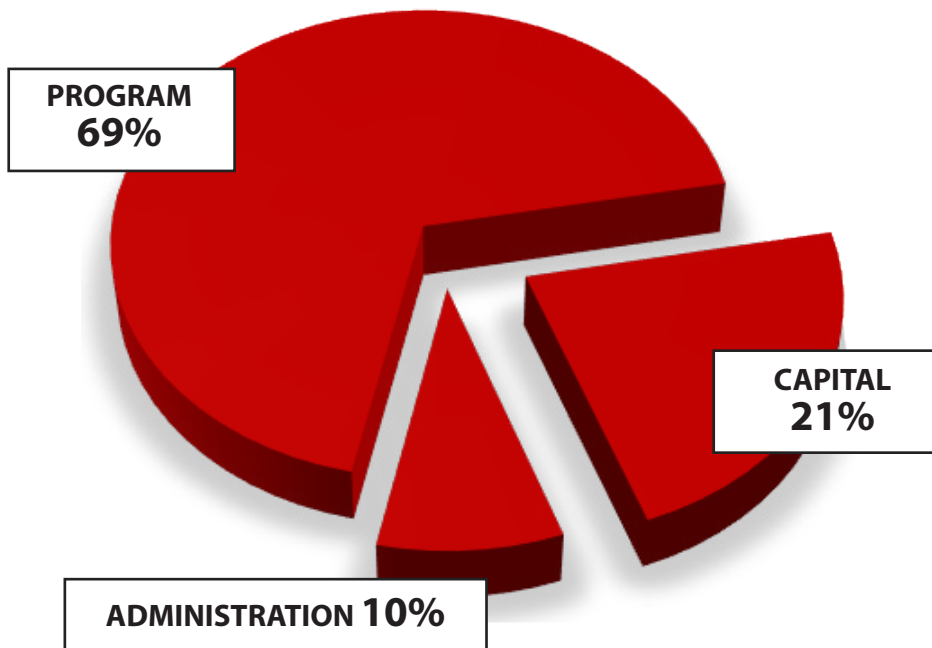
Included in the 2025-2026 proposed budget is an amount not to exceed \$100,000 for the purpose of a capital outlay project to install new ceiling tiles and LED lighting at Junior-Senior High School.

Total Construction Cost	\$100,000
State Aid at 75.9%	\$75,900
Net Local Cost After Aid	\$24,100





## Three Part Comparison



## Voting Ballot

On the voting ballot, in addition to the three propositions, you may also see the names of candidates running for a seat on the Board of Education. Specific candidate information was not available in time for this issue due to the submission deadline.

Please visit the district's website at [tullyschools.org](http://tullyschools.org) to see more information or call the District Office at (315) 696-6204.

## Voter Qualifications

In order to vote you must be: A United States citizen; At least 18 years of age; A resident of the school district for at least 30 days preceding the vote.



## BOE Meetings

**Tuesday, May 6, 2025:**

Annual Public Budget Hearing, at JSHS School Library at 6:00 p.m.

**Tuesday, May 20, 2025:**

2025 Budget Vote, at Elementary School Gymnasium 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

**Tuesday, May 20, 2025:**

BOE Mtg., at JSHS School Library at 6:00 p.m.

**Tuesday, June 17, 2025:**

BOE Mtg., at JSHS School Library at 6:00 p.m.

**Tuesday, July 1, 2025:**

Reorganization/Regular Meeting, at JSHS School, Library @ 6:00 p.m.

## BOE Elections

Before the voters there will also be the opportunity to elect three (3) members for seats on the Board of Education. Two seats are for three (3) year terms starting July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2028. The third seat is for a one-year term starting July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026. Nominating petitions were due in the district office by April 21, 2025. Candidate information may be found on our school district website.

## 2024/25

### Board Members

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



## Kindergarten Sweetness



Among the many activities of spring, kindergarten enjoyed the sweet treat of learning about maple syrup and where it comes from. They began by reading books and looking at photographs. Then they had a special guest, PTO president Lacy Martin, give a presentation about the maple syrup production. Students got to taste samples of sap water and maple

syrup to see the difference.

One kindergarten student also presented what they knew about maple syrup due to her family's work and brought others a goody bag. They then enjoyed *If You Give a Pig a Pancake* and ate pancakes with the syrup her family produces. Yum!

## Eggs-cellent!



Fourth grade students that signed up for Maker Lab this past winter had an eggs-cellent time! Students got to participate in an egg drop after making a "vehicle" for their egg. There were all sorts of ideas on how to protect the eggs. From packing peanuts, to yarn, to jello, these Maker Lab participants got creative. A few packed on the cushioning while others worked on ideas that would slow down the drop itself and make the landing softer. Students dropped the eggs in one of the stairwells beginning from the first floor landing into a pool. Most eggs made the initial drop. They then dropped them again from the second floor, and while a few more broke, many were safe! Students watched eagerly to see whose eggs survived the fall. Some things that the students learned during this fun experiment, were that the greater the fall, the harder the impact and what type of materials were more resilient than others. It was a good lesson to show how speed and quality can affect the outcome.

## PTO News

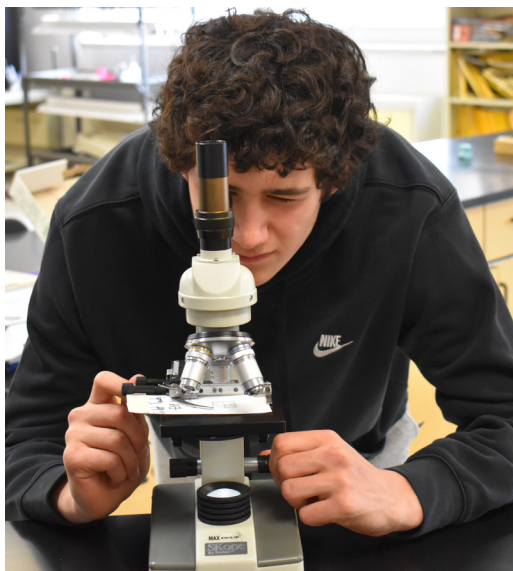
Congratulations to ALL of our amazing readers! There were over seventy students who reached the highest reading goal – way to go! Overall, 89,191 minutes were read throughout our very successful Read-A-Thon. Thank you to all the parents and caregivers who helped our young readers.

Next up...the spring book fair! Mark your calendars for the first week in June; exact dates will be sent out as we get closer.

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 1st Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. Please also join our Facebook page, Tully Elementary PTO. You can reach out via email at [pto@k12.tullyschools.org](mailto:pto@k12.tullyschools.org).







## Looking for Particles

The ESF Environmental Science class did an experiment to test the particle matter considered as an air pollutant throughout different rooms of the JSHS. Students hung air particle sheets that had a petroleum jelly grid on it for three full days. After taking them down, they used microscopes and magnifying glasses to see what types of particles were trapped in the grid, giving them insight on which rooms in the school had the most pollution in the air. After testing high-traffic areas like the main office, the technology classroom, a locker

room, the kitchen, and a few other areas, students found that the technology room picked up the most particle matter, but considering the construction work students do in technology, this was anticipated. Surprisingly, many of the areas were quite clean, which may be a testament to how hard our custodians work.



## Civic-Minded: On the Fast Track

Students most often have big dreams for when they leave high school and it's not too often that they get a headstart on those dreams; however, one student was invited by the New York State Immigration Coalition to speak on the steps of the New York State Senate. There, he petitioned the legislature to adopt funding for a better immigration infrastructure. Mehdi Dursun, a civic-minded senior, has dreams of becoming an immigration lawyer to help those who are in the position that he



was in not too long ago. His experience navigating the legal system was, and still is, a difficult process due to a lack of resources. This is why he was perfect to speak out at the NYS Senate. While there, he met with several state senators and spoke to the needs of immigrants statewide. Mehdi described it to be "a life-changing experience. The conference gave me the opportunity to speak up for something close to my heart: freedom, liberty, and justice for everyone; it was an opportunity to make my voice heard in a place where decisions that shape the future are made. As someone who fled hardship and sought a better life, I wanted to use my voice to shed light on the struggles that not only my people face, but countless others around the world. I hope that my story, and the stories of countless others, will continue to inspire change and lead to a greater understanding of the issues facing marginalized communities around the world. It was a humbling experience, and I am determined to keep fighting for the rights of the Kurdish people and all those who are seeking freedom, justice, and liberty." Due to his ability to understand and empathize with other immigrants, we have no doubt Mehdi will do great things. He is on the fast track to fulfill his dream, and others'.

Special thanks goes to the teachers that helped and continue to help Mehdi through this process.



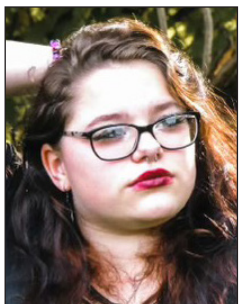
## A Little Humor Goes A Long Way

Teachers and staff at the JSHS got really involved with the Positivity Project's focus on Humor the month of March. A top-secret spirit week was set into motion, which the students knew nothing about. The week began with teachers wearing all black. It was a little dark in the hallways and you could hear the murmurs of students wondering what was up with the staff. Some even Googled why teachers would wear all black and then the questions really began. More chatter was heard the next day when teachers drank from fish bowls, pots, irons, watering cans, and anything else outrageous on Anything but a Water Bottle day. Confusion could be seen on many students' faces and laughter was heard throughout the classrooms. Teachers then wore funny t-shirts in the middle of the week in which students were asked to hop in on the fun. Close to the end of the week, teachers could be seen wearing their tops backwards. How funny! In addition to these antics, students watched a video of teachers doing a dad joke throwdown that was cringe-worthy. The teachers weren't the only ones to have a little fun. Games like Headbandz, Don't Break the Ice, Pie in the Face, and Just Dance on the Wii were available in the cafeteria for students to hop in on the fun. It was definitely a humorous week. With winter holding on, a little humor goes a long way in raising spirits.





## Senior Spotlight - LILITH ANDREWS



**People/Pets in your family:** My mom (Jessica Kimmich), brother (JJ Andrews), and step dad (Pete Kimmich), then there's my dad (David Andrews), my step mom (Jessica Andrews) and Abby, my dog :)

**What have you learned from the activities you have participated in at school?** Theater: It's okay to be extra sometimes - less isn't more. PE: Try your best and try to pass (this is coming from the girl who is "allergic" to sweating and has a 95 in PE). Art: Continue making art - it makes me happy.

**What is your proudest moment in high school so far?** Being a lead role in my senior musical production of *Matilda* and then getting compliments from my teachers and others who loved my performance. Oh, and getting a 90 something on my Earth Science Regents (I think I barely passed that class).

**Where do you see yourself in ten years?** Hopefully owning my own tattoo parlor!!

**If you could invite two or three people to dinner, who would they be, and what would you talk about?** Probably Mema and Papa. My grandfather passed away right after I was born and I think I'd want to talk with him, ask for some general advice, and just see what he thinks about me. My grandmother passed away about 4 or 5 years ago. I would just want to talk, see how she thinks I turned out, and ask her what she thinks about my art. She loved when I showed her my latest painting.

**What challenges have you faced and how have you overcome them?** I'm normally rather antisocial and I thought that it was a weakness, but it worked to my advantage. It's kept me out of drama; sometimes it's nice to just listen to the conversation and not add, and it's helped me take time to work on myself.

**Who's your hero and why?** It's cheesy but it's my mom. She has shown me not all relationships will work out if they aren't supposed to, that it's okay to cry but it's not okay to give up or spiral, and that having a big heart doesn't mean being happy all the time. I can be who and what I want/need to be. And most importantly, I need to put myself and my mental health before anything.

## Senior Spotlight - NATHAN REID



**People/Pets in your family:** I live with my mom (Catrina), dad (James), and one older brother (Michael) who is in college right now, and our little dog, Hailey.

**What has been the best part of your high school career and why?** The best part of my highschool career was winning the football championship my junior year. It was just really rewarding after a hard, long season.

**What have you learned from the activities you have participated in at school?** I've learned that being around people is the best medicine for anything. Anytime I'm down, I can count on my classmates and teammates to cheer me up.

**What are your plans after high school?** I plan on attending Nazareth University, playing lacrosse for four years, and getting a degree.

**Where do you see yourself in ten years?** I see myself right back here in Tully with my kids going to school here.

**If you could invite two or three people to dinner, who would they be, and what would you talk about?** I would invite Kendrick Lamar and LeBron James. We would talk about how these two are GOATs at what they do.

**Who's your hero and why?** My mom is my hero. I've always been amazed at her work ethic and the way she would do anything for me and my brother. She's the parent I'd like to be to my children.

# Save the Date

# GRADUATION 2025

# June 20 at 5pm



## Trivia Night

Over fifty students competed in Trivia Night sponsored by the Senior High Student Council this year. It was a battle to the bitter end for a gift basket prize and bragging rights of being smarter than a 5th grader.

Mr. Mahns, the MC for the night, kept firing questions ranging from those that were content-specific to those only Tully community members would know.

This year's victory went to team "Coolest Cats on the Corner."



## Honor Society Inductions



This year we had several Tully students inducted into honor societies in the month of April, showcasing their hard work and dedication. The National Technical Honor Society gained five new members including: Daniel Byrne for Automotive Technology, Haley Greczyn for Medical Professions, Garrett Hand for Environmental Science, Claire Robertson for Physical Therapy, and Amy Dziok for Criminal Justice. These seniors have excelled in career and leadership development, service, and recognition in their area of study.

National Honor Society inducted eighteen new members which consisted of: Kyla Campoy, Anna Congelli, Gloria Flatt, Daniel Garback, Lane Greczyn, Hannah Hazen, Bryce Keller, Jacob Kowalewski, Anna Lund, Ella Lund, Madelyn Lund, Wyatt Lund, Sean Mize, Aurora Randall, Julian Shay, Molly Verbanic, Gwyneth Wilbur, and Julia Wortley. Each junior has exemplified the pillars of scholarship, service, leadership, citizenship, and character. If they maintain their NHS status, they will earn a graduation stole, just as the senior NHS students did at the induction ceremony.

National Junior Honor Society welcomed fifteen new members including: Nathan Best, Kian Campoy, Eleanor Chambala, Clara Currie, Sam Dando, Logan Dilmore, Isabella Fredenburg, Ashlynn Lucas-Santos, Colton Meaney, Kaitlyn Rainbow, Addyson Rockwell, Xander Tordel, Xavier Tordel, Rylan Walkup, and Kalynn Wortley. These eighth-grade students also excel in the society's pillars of scholarship, service, leadership, citizenship, and character. All of the students in these honor societies have gone above and beyond in their endeavors for themselves and their community, and Tully is proud to recognize them for their accomplishments.

Congratulations to all of these much-deserving students!



## COMMUNITY NEWS

**Current Hours: Monday - Thursday, 10 AM - 7 PM  
Friday 10 AM - 5 PM; Saturday 10 AM - 2 PM; Sunday closed**

### Tully Free Library

**12 State Street • [tullyfreelibrary.org](http://tullyfreelibrary.org) • 315-696-8606**

In case you haven't heard, our staff member, Josh, was named our Youth Services Librarian last month. He has started scheduling new programs for kids and teens, so be sure to check our website and sign up for all the fun. More fun is on the way with our Summer Reading Program, "Color Our World," starting in July. We've scheduled Jeff the Magic Man, visits from the MOST, the Zoo, and lots more! We look forward to seeing everyone at the Memorial Day parade at the end of the month! Thanks to everyone for your support of our library!

**Correction to the Morocco Culture Corner:** Morocco was not the filming location for *Casablanca*. It took place solely in California. We apologize for this mistake as we wish to provide correct information for the countries highlighted.

## ATHLETIC NEWS



The Tully Athletic Department is very excited to use our new Portable "Donkey" Elevated Score Table. This score table was generously donated to the athletic department by the Edinger family. With six generations of Edinger's, currently and formerly attending Tully Central Schools, the Edinger family has made a lasting impact on athletics in Tully. The Tully coaches, athletes, and athletic department are very appreciative and excited to use the new score table.

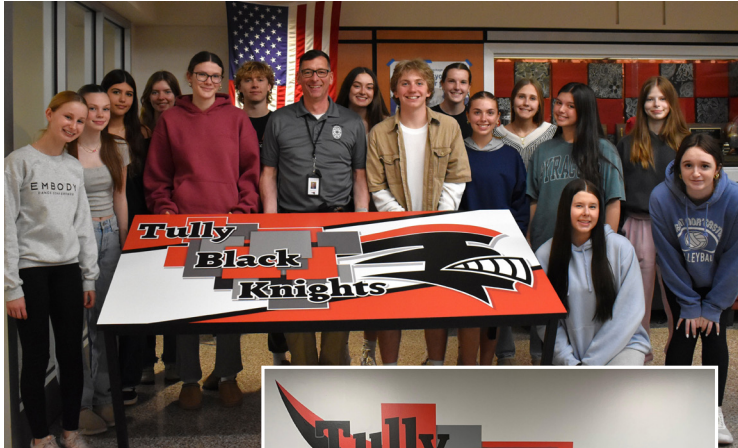


## JSHS Presents 2025 Top Ten

Each year, seniors are given their academic rank designation. These students are those that work tirelessly to achieve the highest of standards in their classroom education. Tully JSHS is proud to present this year's Top Ten beginning with the valedictorian, Lucy Wright. Lucy has unequivocally used every moment she has had to dedicate to her educational career, going above and beyond in both her school and community activities. She is enrolled in a variety of AP and college courses, excelling in all of them. When she is not in a classroom engaged in her studies, you can find her running from one club to another. Lucy participates in every leadership program available which includes Student Council, Daneli Leadership, Teen Institute, and Dialogue Exchange. She is a member of both the National Honor Society and the Spanish National Honor Society, and she also participates in the Interact Club, volunteering her time to the welfare of the community. To top it off, she excels in choir and is a member of Chamber Singers, participates in the yearly musical, and runs with the varsity cross country and track teams. Lucy is well-rounded in every aspect of her high school career and we wish her well in her future endeavors! Isaac Stoogenke is this year's salutatorian and he also has a full schedule. Focusing his studies in the field of science, his schedule entails the majority of classes in both AP and college science courses. Isaac participates in several leadership programs including Student Council, Teen Institute, and Dialogue Exchange. He is an integral part of the Model UN team and the SH International Club, and has spent lots of time on the soccer field helping lead his team to victory. Isaac takes pride in his work, and we wish to congratulate him on this outstanding achievement! All students on the Top Ten list engage in a wide variety of activities including sports, Student Council, volunteer programs, and school clubs. They have all worked tremendously hard for their accomplishments and deserve the highest of praise. We wish every one of these students much success in their forthcoming educational and career aspirations!

**Pictured on the front page are** Valedictorian – Lucy Wright; Salutatorian – Isaac Stoogenke; 3rd – Andy Polak; 4th – Quinzi Williams; 5th – Ryan Rauber; 6th – Thomas Foody; 7th – Wesley Chambala; 8th – Haley Greczyn; 9th – Karissa Olender; 10th – Elaina Iozzo.

## Gift Wrapped



The Senior High Art Club had a little extra money in their account that they wanted to do something special with. After brainstorming and taking inspiration from a former student's mural creation, the table that Officer Lamoureux frequents in the lobby was wrapped.

Art students took the image and talked about how they could keep the integrity of the design but stand out on the red table. After tweaking the color pattern, they dropped the table and their image off to a screen graphics company where it was applied. After receiving it back, the art students proudly presented Officer Lamoureux with the gift, literally wrapped! Art students thought their gift would not only be unique for Officer Lamoureux, but saw it as a great tribute to the school that would look good for years to come.

## A Long Walk to Water



Students in seventh grade read *A Long Walk to Water* by Linda Sue Park in tandem with *Running for My Life* by Lopez Lomong, both focusing on the harsh reality of Sudan. Lopez Lomong is a former Tully student who escaped the harrowing life in the Sudan as a teenager and then later on became an Olympiad with the guidance of Mr. Paccia, former tech teacher and present track coach, and others.

To help students understand the point of view in the books, Mr. Paccia came in as a secondary source. He spoke of his days when he first met Lomong in which there was a language barrier, how Lomong had to adapt to our culture, the hardships and adversity that Lomong faced, and the triumphs that prevailed. Mr. Paccia speaking to the seventh graders helped students gain invaluable insight. Being able to express the opposing point of view of receiving a refugee really impacted the students' understanding of the journey some people go through - for some, it is longer than others.

**TULLY CENTRAL SCHOOLS**  
**20 State Street, Tully NY 13159**

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## TULLY CENTRAL SCHOOL EVENTS



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

### MAY

- 1 NYS 3rd-5th Grade Math Testing  
PTO Meeting, 6:00pm
- 2 NYS 8th Grade Science Testing
- 3 SAT (off-site)
- 5-16 AP Exams
- 6 Budget Hearing, 6:00pm
- 7 NYS 5th Grade Science Testing
- 8 TES Open House, 6:00pm
- 9 JSHS Mid MP4 Ends; JH Dance, 6:30pm
- 13-14 NYS 6th-8th Grade ELA Testing
- 17 Prom
- 20 Budget Vote at TES, 6am-9pm  
BOE Meeting at JSHS, 6:00pm
- 26 No School
- 28 Cortland Country Special Olympics  
JSHS Pops Concert/Art Show, 6:30pm
- 29 JSHS Academic Achievement Night/  
Art Show, 6:30pm



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