



## From the Desk of the Superintendent

As we lay the groundwork for the year ahead, we are proud to present our 2026-2027 fiscal plan, a roadmap designed to bridge our high standards for student achievement with a disciplined approach to fiscal responsibility. This budget is more than a financial plan, it is a testament to our commitment to every student and a reflection of the careful, deliberate work required to sustain a premier educational environment.

Our Board of Education has prioritized a plan that elevates the student experience, while remaining protective of our community's resources. By proposing a 2.48% local tax levy increase, we are ensuring that our classrooms remain hubs of innovation and excellence without overextending our local taxpayers. We believe this balance is essential to maintaining the trust and stability our district has worked so hard to build.

When you head to the poll this year, you will find four propositions on the ballot:

1. General Fund, which authorizes the financial resources necessary to support our school district's daily operations; including educational programming, staffing, and essential services for the upcoming school year.
2. School Bus Lease, which ensures our fleet remains modern, safe, and reliable.
3. Capital Reserve Fund, which will act as a safeguard for our facilities, allowing us to maintain our campus with a long-term vision of sustainability.
4. Tully Free Library Funding, which will allow the library to continue to enrich the community.

Your voice is the foundation of our district's success. We invite you to join us for a **Public Budget Hearing on Tuesday, May 5, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.** in the Junior-Senior High School library. This is an opportunity to learn more about our strategic fiscal goals and engage in a transparent dialogue about our shared future.

Please mark your calendars for the **Budget Vote, Tuesday, May 19, 2026, held from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.** in the Tully Elementary School gymnasium. Your participation and your support are what make this community exceptional. Together, we are not just funding a school district, we are investing in the future of our Tully students and community.

Go Black Knights!

*Andy Buchsbaum, Superintendent of Schools*

## SCHOOL BUDGET VOTE

# MAY 19, 2026

Voting Hours 7:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Voting Location: Elementary School Gymnasium



**2026 TOP TEN - Article on page 7**

### PROPOSITION I

#### 2026/2027 PROPOSED BUDGET

**Proposed 2026-2027 Budget: \$23,848,117**  
(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

#### 2026 CAPITAL RESERVE FUND

**Authorization to establish a Capital Reserve Fund**  
(see page 4 for detailed proposition)

### PROPOSITION IV

#### TULLY FREE LIBRARY TAX

**Proposed 2026-2027 Budget: \$260,370**  
(see page 4 for detailed proposition)

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

*Save the Date*  
**CLASS OF 2026 GRADUATION**  
**JUNE 18 AT 5PM**

## 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 English Language Arts curriculum, Really Great Reading, is rooted in the “Science of Reading” and evidenced-based practices and we are transitioning our writing instruction based on the Writing Revolution. 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 are from the Smithsonian. 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 grades 3-5 as well as science in grade 5. 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 Second Step, with 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 the 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 Art Club, Maker Club, Intramurals, Safety Patrol, Yearbook, Jazz Band, 3rd/4th Chorus, NYSSMA, and All-County. The 5th 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 2023-24	ELA 2024-25	Math 2023-24	Math 2024-25	Science 2023-24	Science 2024-25
<b>Grade 3</b>	Tully CSD	40%	39%	51%	40%		
	NYS Average	43%	54%	54%	60%		
<b>Grade 4</b>	Tully CSD	61%	70%	62%	57%		
	NYS Average	47%	54%	58%	59%		
<b>Grade 5</b>	Tully CSD	47%	60%	56%	39%	42%	55%
	NYS Average	44%	57%	49%	54%	35%	45%
<b>Grade 6</b>	Tully CSD	32%	44%	52%	59%		
	NYS Average	44%	51%	51%	51%		
<b>Grade 7</b>	Tully CSD	39%	56%	45%	53%		
	NYS Average	50%	51%	57%	56%		
<b>Grade 8</b>	Tully CSD	53%	60%	43%	65%	41%	41%
	NYS Average	52%	52%	41%	47%	34%	43%

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



## Junior-Senior High Academic Program

At this time of year, our seniors are busy making plans for what comes next after graduation, and hopefully enjoying every minute they have left in their Tully school careers. Graduation is on Thursday, June 18th, when we will celebrate the achievements of the Class of 2026!

Here at Tully Junior-Senior High School, we 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 English, Statistics, Calculus, United States History, World History, Biology, Chemistry, and Physics, as well as honors courses in English and Social Studies. Our 8th graders have the opportunity to take accelerated courses in Spanish, Living Environment, and Algebra for high school credit. Several faculty members teach Pre-Calculus, Technology, Business and Finance, Spanish, and English as part of our partnerships with Onondaga Community College and Tompkins County Community College. We also have articulation agreements with SUNY Morrisville and SUNY Cobleskill for most of our agriculture courses. We provide support to all of our students through our Learning Support Center and special education programming, and we also offer courses and CTE programs through partnerships with BOCES.

Students transition from the elementary school to sixth grade through a series of activities, including a "Welcome Day," an orientation, and a curriculum night when all JSHS parents can learn about courses and classroom expectations. Our junior high program includes sixth grade flex classes that offer enrichment, support, and project-based learning activities, and all JH students take a variety of coursework in both career technical education, health, and fine arts in addition to their core curriculum to gain an understanding of future elective options. Our Spanish program also begins in the sixth grade. Our school counseling program includes career education and exploration, academic review and support, classroom instruction, and individual counseling. Additionally, the building social worker provides social-emotional learning and prevention education through the Second Step Education Program for all junior high students as well as being available for students at all grade levels.

Tully JSHS offers 33 extra-curricular activities, 21 varsity sports, and many additional athletic opportunities at the junior varsity, modified, and junior high levels. We are proud to report that we have an 85% participation rate within the student body this year in which our students participate in at least one extracurricular activity or sport!

### New York State Regents Exams

		2023-24 Passing	2023-24 Mastery	2024-25 Passing	2024-25 Mastery
<b>Algebra</b>	Tully CSD	76%	4%	82%	13%
	NYS Average	62%	14%	56%	12%
<b>Geometry</b>	Tully CSD	83%	31%	84%	31%
	NYS Average	57%	16%	60%	16%
<b>Algebra 2</b>	Tully CSD	95%	20%	90%	28%
	NYS Average	74%	19%	75%	20%
<b>*Living Environment</b>	Tully CSD	81%	31%	50%	0%
	NYS Average	62%	24%	57%	17%
<b>**Life Science: Biology</b>	Tully CSD			67%	2%
	NYS Average			58%	8%
<b>Earth Science</b>	Tully CSD	98%	61%	90%	81%
	NYS Average	67%	30%	65%	34%
<b>Chemistry</b>	Tully CSD	100%	25%	94%	48%
	NYS Average	65%	20%	65%	20%
<b>Physics</b>	Tully CSD	72%	17%	50%	13%
	NYS Average	74%	34%	69%	28%
<b>Global History II</b>	Tully CSD	91%	52%	96%	57%
	NYS Average	77%	25%	76%	25%
<b>US History (Framework)</b>	Tully CSD	88%	12%	82%	19%
	NYS Average	78%	18%	75%	19%
<b>English</b>	Tully CSD	90%	41%	93%	47%
	NYS Average	79%	39%	75%	30%

### Graduation Rates

	2023-2024	2024-2025
<b>Tully CSD</b>	93%	98%
<b>NYS Average</b>	86%	85%

#### Regents Diplomas with Advanced Designation

	2023-2024	2024-2025
<b>Tully CSD</b>	65%	51%
<b>NYS Average</b>	33%	31%

\*This was the last of the cohort to take the Living Environment Regents exam.

\*\*This is the first cohort that Life Science: Biology Regents exam has been administered to.

## 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: 2026/27 Proposed Budget -**

Shall the Board of Education of the Tully Central School District be authorized to expend the sum of Twenty-Three Million, Eight Hundred Forty-Eight Thousand, One Hundred Seventeen Dollars (\$23,848,117) as General Fund appropriations for the school year 2026-2027 and levy the necessary tax therefor?

### **PROPOSITION II: Student Transportation -**

Shall the Board of Education of the Tully Central School District be authorized to lease, lease purchase, or finance three (3) 65-passenger school buses, one (1) 65-passenger school bus with a luggage compartment and AC and one (1) 30-passenger wheelchair school bus, including necessary furnishings, fixtures and equipment and all other costs incidental thereto, and expend a total sum not to exceed \$835,182, which is estimated to be the total maximum cost thereof, and said amount, or so much thereof as may be necessary, shall be raised by the levy of a tax upon the taxable property of said School District and collected in annual installments as provided by Section 416 of the Education Law; and, in anticipation of such tax, obligations of said School District, in the principal amount not to exceed \$835,182, shall be issued?

### **PROPOSITION III: 2026 Capital Reserve Fund**

- Shall the Board of Education of the Tully Central School District, be authorized to establish a Capital Reserve Fund for a ten-year term pursuant to Section 3651 of the Education Law to be titled “2026 Capital Reserve Fund” and fund such reserve in an amount not to exceed \$6,000,000, inclusive of accrued interest and other investment earnings, to be used for renovations and additions to all District facilities, including purchase of equipment, technology upgrades, classroom equipment and/or school infrastructure equipment, site development, athletic fields, storm and sanitary sewer, driveways, and parking lots, such reserve fund to be funded from (i) year-end budget surplus funds known as unassigned fund balance, as available, for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2026 and each fiscal year thereafter for the term of the reserve fund, (ii) transfers of excess monies from Board of Education designated reserves, (iii) amounts from budgetary appropriations from time to time, and (iv) New York State Aid received and made available by the Board of Education from time to time, all as permitted by law.

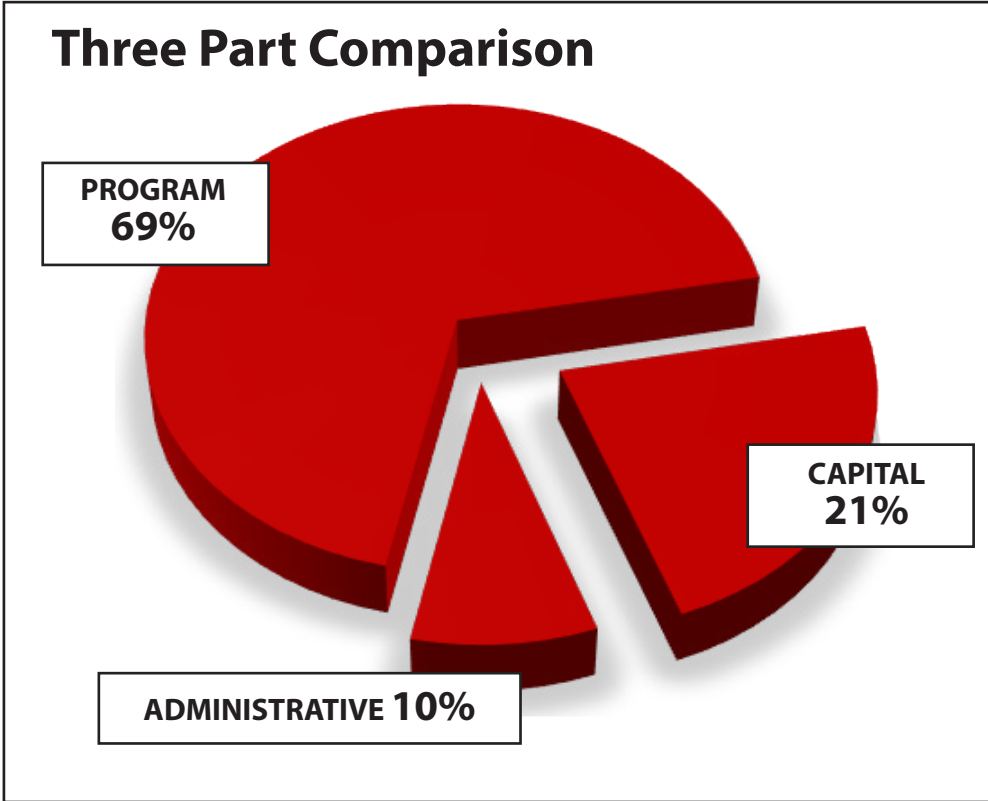
**Ceiling and Lighting Replacement:** Included in the 2026-2027 proposed budget is an amount not to exceed \$100,000 for the purpose of a capital outlay project to install new ceiling tiles and LED lighting at Junior-Senior High School.

Construction Cost	\$100,000
State Aid at 74.1%	\$74,100
Net Local Cost After Aid	\$25,900

### **PROPOSITION IV: Tully Free Library Tax -**

For the purpose of funding the Tully Free Library, shall the sum of Two Hundred Sixty Thousand, Three Hundred Seventy Dollars (\$260,370) be raised by annual levy of a tax upon the taxable real property within the Tully Central School District?

## Three Part Comparison



## BOE Meetings

**Tuesday, May 5, 2026:**

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

**Tuesday, May 19, 2026:**

**2026 Budget Vote**, at Elementary School Gymnasium 7:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.

**Tuesday, May 19, 2026:**

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

**Tuesday, June 16, 2026:**

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

## BOE Elections

Before the voters there will also be the opportunity to elect two (2) members for seats on the Board of Education. Both seats are for three (3) year terms starting July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2029.

Nominating petitions were due in the district office by April 20, 2026.

Candidate information may be found on our school district website.

## 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.



## 2025/26

### Board Members

2028	Mr. Shannon Brown <a href="mailto:boe.sbrown@tullyschools.org">boe.sbrown@tullyschools.org</a>
2027	Ms. Donna Doody <a href="mailto:boe.ddoody@tullyschools.org">boe.ddoody@tullyschools.org</a>
2026	Mr. Scott Haynes <a href="mailto:boe.shaynes@tullyschools.org">boe.shaynes@tullyschools.org</a>
2027	Mr. Jeffrey Phelps <a href="mailto:boe.jphelps@tullyschools.org">boe.jphelps@tullyschools.org</a>
2028	Mrs. Bettemae Russell <a href="mailto:boe.brussell@tullyschools.org">boe.brussell@tullyschools.org</a>
2026	Ms. Cheryl Wayne <a href="mailto:boe.cwayne@tullyschools.org">boe.cwayne@tullyschools.org</a>
2027	Mr. Edward Wortley, II <a href="mailto:boe.ewortley@tullyschools.org">boe.ewortley@tullyschools.org</a>

## Underground Spirit Week



Who says kids get to have all the fun? Teachers recently held an underground spirit week which had the students asking, "What is going on?" These "undercover" weeks have gained popularity at schools to boost morale among students. Our elementary teachers began the week with twin day making students do a double take in the halls. They then wore socks with sandals, dressed like royalty, and participated in a blackout day. The end of the week was for the decades. Throughout the week, students whispered and wondered what was taking place, but when they figured it out, it was fun to see them guess what each days' theme was!

## PTO News

Congratulations to ALL of our amazing readers! 234 TES students read for over 118,000 minutes during the 2026 Read-A-Thon! Thank you to all the parents and caregivers who helped our young readers. This year we brought in about \$19,000 for the TES PTO. The PTO helps to pay for field trips, teacher appreciation events, special classroom supplies, and other events at the school...among other things!

Next up...the spring book fair! Exact dates will be sent out as we get closer.

If you would like to learn more about the PTO, become involved (various levels of volunteering available), or just listen to a meeting, please join us on Zoom. For the months of May and June, we are holding our meetings virtually on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. Please also join our Facebook page, Tully Elementary PTO. You can also reach out anytime via email at [pto@k12.tullyschools.org](mailto:pto@k12.tullyschools.org).

## Dino Day in PreK



Roar! Our youngest students learned all about dinosaurs in the month of March, culminating in Dino Day where they got to share their work with family members. Students first learned about the different types of dinosaurs, what they ate, and how big they were. They also had exciting learning centers where they could dig for fossils, compare their body size to dino footprints, complete dinosaur puzzles, color dinosaur pages, and create miniature dinosaur worlds with toy dinosaurs. Steggie, the classroom's giant stegosaurus, helped students learn how to measure with lots of different items. They even created dinosaur murals in art class. After all the exciting lessons, they got to show their loved ones all about it on Dino Day! Centers were set up in the small gym and students became little paleontologists to share dino facts. Family members circulated around the centers, participating with their young paleontologist while listening to all the information they had soaked up during the month. What a great way to end with Dino Day!

## Rover Olympics



Seventh grade students recently participated in a “Rover Olympics” competition sponsored by Mr. Chambers as the chairman of the Tully Olympic Committee. Over several days in Computer Science, students learned how to use TI - 84 calculators to program a rover robot to compete in events such as curling, speed skating, bobsledding, hockey, and slalom. Mrs. Sterritt and Mrs. Bovi served as the official timekeepers. Afterwards, an official ceremony was held in which students were given medals and prizes. Lots of fun for these math olympians!



## JSHS Presents 2026 Top Ten

Each year, seniors are given their academic rank designation. These students are those that work tirelessly to achieve the highest standards in their classroom education. Tully JSHS is proud to present this year’s Top Ten beginning with the valedictorian, Sean Mize. Sean has risen above and beyond in his academic and extracurricular endeavors. He is enrolled in a variety of AP and college courses, excelling in all of them. When he is not in a classroom engaged in his studies, you can find him on the basketball court or soccer field with his peers cheering him on. Sean also participates in leadership programs such as Teen Institute and Daneli. He is a member of both the National Honor Society and the Spanish National Honor Society, and he spent some of his high school career in Student Council and volunteering through the Interact Club. Sean is well-rounded in every aspect of his high school career and we wish him well in his future endeavors! Kyla Campoy is this year’s salutatorian and she also has a full schedule, which entails a majority of classes at both the AP and college level. Kyla is heavily involved in clubs that spotlight her drive to make her community better including Community Wide Dialogue Exchange, Environmental Club, International Club, and even Interact Club as an underclassman. She also spotlights her leadership skills as a member of the National Honor Society, Spanish National Honor Society, and Daneli. She works hard on the lacrosse field as well and is an integral part of the competitive swim team she is part of. Kyla takes pride in her work, and we wish to congratulate her 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! Top Ten pictured on cover.

Valedictorian – Sean Mize; Salutatorian – Kyla Campoy; 3rd – Wyatt Lund; 4th – Bryce Keller; 5th – Anna Lund; 6th – Molly Verbanic; 7th – Hannah Hazen; 8th – Jacob Kowalewski; 9th – Aurora Randall; 10th – Lane Greczyn.

## Trivia (K)Night

High school students enjoyed the annual Trivia (K)Night just before spring break which is sponsored by the Senior High Student Council. Fifteen teams consisting of over seventy students competed for Dunkin’ Donuts gift cards and bragging rights of being the smartest in the room. Questions ranged from those that were content specific to those only Tully community members would know. This year’s winners (and defending champs) was the team known as “Coolest Cats on the Corner,” consisting of: Anna Congelli, Kyla Campoy, Gwen Wilbur, Aurora Randall, Gloria Flatt, and Bryce Keller - way to represent, seniors!



## Spring Break in Spain

Twenty eight students and four teachers embarked on an overseas journey during this year's spring break, spending time in Madrid, Granada, Costa del Sol, and Morocco. For many, this was their first time out of the country, but for others, this was another stamp in their passport book. After a long day of traveling by bus and airplane, the travelers hit the ground running on their first day in Spain. Students ate a picnic lunch in a park and then experienced shopping at a supermarket, putting their language skills to the test. Then they enjoyed perusing the architecture, viewing statues, and tasting different foods in the open plazas. Most logged at least thirteen thousand steps that first day! Day two consisted of a walking tour that focused on the diverse architecture and grand plazas, touring the Reina Sofia (a Spanish art museum), having coffee on a rooftop with amazing views, and souvenir shopping in the market. They then witnessed a Palm Sunday procession in the streets which really showcased the culture of Madrid.

On day three, students traveled to Toledo, Spain's old capital, to view El Greco's great painting in the Church of Santo Tome. Then it was on to the Gothic Cathedral and Medieval Synagogue tours. Students took in the remarkable paintings and buildings with awe. Back in Madrid, they enjoyed traditional churros with chocolate and an authentic Paella dinner. Day four consisted of the group traveling to their next destination where they would stay a couple nights. They wandered around the grounds of the Castillo de Consuegra, a real Spanish castle, before reaching Granada in time for dinner. After what seemed like a short nap, the following day was spent at a Spanish palace, Alhambra, and the beautiful gardens of Generalife. Souvenir shopping at a silk bazaar was a must and then a flamenco lesson was enjoyed by everyone. Dinner and a show was the entertainment for the evening and then a stroll with stunning views from El Mirador capped the night off. Departing from Granada, travelers made their way to Costa del Sol where they wandered the village of Mijas and enjoyed the sands of a Mediterranean beach. On their last day of adventure, they hopped on a ferry to cross the seas to Tangier in Morocco. There they enjoyed lunch and the Mediterranean views before returning to Spain and heading home. After a long week of sightseeing and traveling, students and teachers had one day to recoup before returning to school. Many chatted excitedly about their trip and Spanish classes learned all about their travels, seeing pictures from each place. What a wonderful experience for all. You can visit the Tully CSD Facebook page for pictures of their trip!





## Art Club Visits NYC

A handful of the Senior High Art Club students took a quick day trip to New York City to enjoy an art-filled day. Catching the train and then riding the subway in, students spent several hours wandering the Metropolitan Museum of Art analyzing and chatting about the exhibits. When finished, they caught the subway to the Oculus and the 9/11 Memorial Plaza where they did a self tour. Then it was time for snacks, people watching, and admiring the Statue of Liberty in Battery Park. Chelsea Pier was the next stop where the students milled about with lots of restaurants and shops. Hopping back on the train at Penn Station, they headed towards home. Students enjoyed a nice dinner at a quaint Italian restaurant in New Jersey before returning home. What a great day for some of our art students!



## The Flow of Science



Earth and Space Science students were investigating the effects of erosion using a stream table. Students had to plan and conduct an investigation which examined the effects of water on surface processes that occur across New York State, changing the landscape over time. They determined which surface materials resulted in faster erosion, examined how the effects of erosion could be reduced or even prevented, and studied stream features such as meanders, oxbow lakes, and river deltas. That's what we call the flow of science!

## 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**  
**315-696-8606**

Plans are in the works for our annual Summer Reading Program! This year's theme is "Unearth a Story," and we have lots of events scheduled for June through August, such as Jeff the Magic Man, Zoo to You, a visit from the M.O.S.T., princess story time and more!

Registration will open in mid-June for our Summer Reading Challenge, which runs from July 6 through August 28. Kids, teens and adults can all earn prizes for reading!

We look forward to seeing you at the library!

## Seniors Strike!

The graduating class of 2026 kicked off their celebration season with a trip to Flamingo Bowl in Liverpool. Activities such as this help to continue to build a bond between the class members before they go their separate ways after graduation.

On a chilly April day, they left campus after third period to try their luck at the lanes. A couple seniors worked the lanes like pros, earning themselves several strikes, raising their scores well above the average. This activity precedes Decision Day, the senior trip to Hershey Park, senior spotlights, and so much more!



## Senior Spotlight - ANNA CONGELLI



**People/Pets in your family:** Jonas (dad), Tammy (mom), Emily and Allison (sisters), Matthew (brother), Casey and Jasmine (dogs), and Mystique (cat).

**What have you learned from the activities you have participated in at school?** I've learned how to be a good teammate and leader on the teams I've been

a part of, as well as the importance of keeping close friendships and being kind to everyone.

**What is your proudest moment in high school so far?** My proudest moment in high school was last year during outdoor state qualifiers when our 4x800 team won and advanced to states. I was so excited to race with my teammates and experience states as a team.

**What are your plans after high school?** After high school I plan to attend SUNY Binghamton where I'll be majoring in Biology. I am hoping to transfer into the nursing school my second year. I'll also be competing in cross country and track there at the Division 1 level.

**Where do you see yourself in ten years?** In ten years I see myself working in a hospital as either a PA or a Nurse Practitioner and living somewhere near my family.

**What challenges have you faced and how have you overcome them?** One challenge I've faced was starting my junior outdoor track season with a stress fracture. I overcame this by following my coach's plan, cross training, and barely running for a month. When I got back to running that season, I made it to states which was my only goal. When I raced at states I got second place, which I never even thought I would make it to the state meet that year, so getting second place was awesome.

**Who's your hero and why?** My mom is my hero because she works so hard and still makes time in her schedule to come out and support all of my meets and games and just gives me her overall support every day. She is my biggest inspiration in life.

## Senior Spotlight - AURORA RANDALL



**People/Pets in your family:** Sarah (mom), Jeremy (dad), Jasper (brother), Merrin (sister), Moose (cat), and Violet (dog).

**What has been the best part of your high school career and why?** I would have to say that the best part of my high school career has been learning about myself and figuring out who I am and who I want to be. I've had a lot of difficult moments throughout high school, but they have led me to grow and find a true sense of self and I have become so much more confident in myself.

**What have you learned from the activities you have participated in at school?** I have learned that it is often good to challenge yourself and step outside of your comfort zone. I have taken many AP classes, and while they are hard, they have been very beneficial for my learning. I have also learned that it's important to do things on your own and have your own unique experiences and not rely on your friends and people you know, because once you get out of high school, you won't always be able to lean on people in uncomfortable situations.

**What are your plans after high school?** My plans after high school are to go to an out-of-state university and get my degree in psychology and women/gender studies. I want to eventually be a women's therapist/psychologist.

**Where do you see yourself in ten years?** In ten years, I see myself living in a warmer area, owning a home of some sort, and working as a therapist to help people and better the lives of others.

**What challenges have you faced and how have you overcome them?** I have faced challenges with my mental health throughout my whole life. I have worked with myself and other people to lessen the impacts of my mental health on my life, and I have grown so much throughout that journey. I have given myself grace and time to work through these things to make sure I don't get overwhelmed. I think it's very important to talk about mental health struggles, and talking about these challenges has greatly helped me to overcome them.

**Who's your hero and why?** I don't only have one hero, I have many. I look up to all of the adults in my life (grandparents, parents, aunts, uncles) because they have all been through their own struggles, yet they continue to give support to other people in their lives and be kind and loving. I always aim to make the lives of others better, even if I am struggling myself, and I have great role models to look up to in that way. I am very proud of all of my family members and I am so thankful to have them in my life as my heroes.

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

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Permit No. 7



TO: LOCAL POST OFFICE BOXHOLDER  
OR RURAL ROUTE PATRON

## TULLY CENTRAL SCHOOL EVENTS

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



### MAY

- 1 NYS Grade 8 Science Testing
- 2 SAT (off-site)
- 4-11 AP Exams
- 5 Budget Hearing, 6:00pm
- 5-6 NYS Grade 3 Math Testing
- 6 NYS Grade 5 Science Testing
- 7-8 NYS Grade 4 Math Testing
- 8 JH Dance, 6:30pm; JSHS Mid-MP ends
- 12-13 NYS Grade 6 Math Testing,  
NYS Grades 7-8 ELA Testing
- 14 TES Open House, 6:00pm; PTO Meeting,  
7:00pm; New Kindergarten Screening
- 15 SH Mock DWI Demonstration
- 16 Prom
- 19 Budget Vote at TES, 7:00am-8:00pm;  
BOE Meeting at JSHS, 6:00pm
- 22-25 **Memorial Day Recess**
- 27 JSHS Pops Concert/Art Show;  
Cortland Olympiad
- 28 JSHS Academic Awards Night, 6:00pm



Tully Central  
School District



tully\_csd