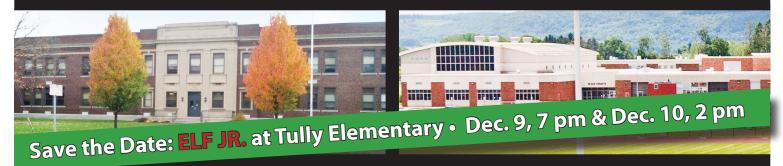
#### Issue: November/ December 2022 RKNIGHT INSIGHT



#### Tully Welcomes New Superintendent, Darcy Woodcock



I want to thank the entire Tully community for the warm welcome I have received. I am looking forward to building strong relationships during this transition period and beyond. I cannot wait to begin attending community and school events to meet new people and learn more about all the things that make Tully an amazing place.

I was born in Lexington, Kentucky and at age three moved to Durham, North Carolina. In the middle of fourth grade, my family moved to New York. I attended school in North Syracuse Central School District and graduated from there in 1997.

I earned my undergraduate degree from SUNY Geneseo with a dual major in elementary and special education and a minor in dance. For

both my master's degree in literacy and my Certificate of Advanced Study in School Building and District Leadership, I attended SUNY Oswego. In addition, I earned my doctorate degree from Walden University in Educational Administration and Leadership. Last month, I completed the NYS Superintendent Development Program from SUNY Oswego.

I taught for eleven years, first in Pasco County, Florida, and then in the Fayetteville-Manlius School District. I was able to gain experience in every grade level, kindergarten through sixth grade. Upon entering administration, I began as a summer school principal at the high school level. I then spent six and a half years as the principal of Liverpool Elementary in the Liverpool Central School District. After that, I became the Director of Professional Learning at Syracuse City School District and then the Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction at the Westhill Central School District.

I became an educator because of my mom. She taught for 37 years and retired from the North Syracuse Central School District. As young children, my twin sister and I played school in our house with old worksheets and transparencies from my mom's classroom. She was, and still is, my idol.

Education is a common theme in my family. My twin sister, Diane, is the principal of Dr. Weeks Elementary in Syracuse City School District, and my husband, Brett, is the Executive Principal of Liverpool High School in the Liverpool Central School District.

My family consists of three daughters, my husband, and our two puppies, Charli and Winnie. My daughter, Mia, is in ninth grade at Liverpool High School. My two stepdaughters attend the Tully Central School District, Mari in eighth grade, and Kenzie in fifth. My three children are my measuring stick in making sensible decisions that support the achievement and well-being of all students.

In my free time, I enjoy reading, going on adventures with my family, and cheering on the Buffalo Bills.

I am so excited to be a member of the Black Knights' family.

## Helio Health<sup>®</sup> Where hope meets healing

Tully CSD would like to extend a warm welcome to Helio Health on our campus this year! Helio Health has partnered with Tully School District so that mental health counseling services can be accessed by students in the community. The school-based clinic is a satellite office of the Helio Health Child & Adolescent Clinic based in Syracuse, NY, and can offer all the services that the main clinic does. This is a wonderful service because providing on-site services reduces the overall amount of time a student is missing instruction due to no longer needing to leave school to attend appointments elsewhere.

Holly Weiler is Tully's school-based counselor. She graduated from Nazareth College with a Master of Creative Arts Therapy and she is a licensed creative arts therapist. Families who are interested in services can reach out to their school counselor or social worker to complete a referral. Families can also contact Ms. Weiler directly at 315-436-4294 or by email, hweiler@ helio.health

Ms. Weiler will be at TES on Tuesdays and Thursdays and at the JSHS on Mondays and Wednesdays, with time split between the buildings on Fridays. She will work with school staff to identify the best time to meet with a student during the school day and students will (most often) be seen weekly or biweekly to begin. All students within services will have a treatment plan goal that is updated and modified as their treatment progresses.

Therapy offered can come through play, talking, utilizing media like music and videos, art, and writing, among other things. All Helio Health clinicians utilize evidence-based therapeutic interventions and approaches such as CBT, DBT, Motivational Interviewing, ACT, and CCPT to assist in providing effective care. If these services are something your student could benefit from, reach out today!

#### **Principal's Message**



I can't believe we are already one-quarter of the way through the year! Our Halloween parade was fantastic. It is always fun to see students in costumes and staff always appreciate getting to see the seniors return to parade at the elementary school. In addition to report cards going home for the first marking period, on November 10th, parents/ guardians were able to meet 1:1 with teachers in-person or virtually for a parent-teacher conference. Our most recent P2 traits of study have been Bravery, Gratitude, and Kindness.

December is an important month on the performance front. On December 9th and 10th our TES musical, *Elf, Jr.,* will take place. Our first concert of the year with performances by both our 5th/6th Band and 5th/6th Chorus will take place on December 15th. These will be the last performances in the auditorium before it is renovated during spring. During the winter months we will see an uptick in other illnesses like cold, flu, and strep throat. Please make sure to keep students home if they are still not feeling well so we can try to limit the spread of all illnesses. Have a wonderful holiday

**Edward Kupiec** student season, we'll see you in 2023!

Mr. Edward Kupiec, ES Principal • Phone: 315.696.6213 • Twitter: @ekupiecTullyES • Email: ed.kupiec@tullyschools.org

## Icky, Sticky, Wonderful Pumpkins!



First graders learned all about pumpkins at the end of October; how they can be icky and sticky, but wonderful! They learned about the life cycle and some interesting facts, and read lots of books about pumpkins including *Pumpkin Soup*. After reading about pumpkin soup, the students got to help their teachers make their very own pumpkin soup in an Instant Pot. Not only did the first graders love trying their hand at wearing a chef hat, but some of them may also have found a new favorite soup! At the end of the unit, students explored everything they learned about pumpkins by opening them up and scooping the icky, sticky guts out. What a wonderful fall unit!

## **PreK/K Registration**

This month, we are starting our Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten Registration process. If you have not already done so, please register your child(ren) online at http://www.tullyschools.org.

To be eligible for pre-kindergarten, children must be district residents and turn 4 years of age, but not yet reach age 5, by December 1, 2023. For the 2023-2024 school year, Tully Elementary School is able to accommodate a maximum of 54 students in prekindergarten. If more than 54 students have been registered for pre-kindergarten by January 31, 2023, the District will need to conduct a lottery to determine enrollment and organize a waiting list. Please note that pre-K is a full-day program, and we cannot provide school bus transportation until a child is 4 years old.

To enter kindergarten, children must be 5 years of age by December 1, 2023. Unlike pre-kindergarten, there is no limit on the number of district-resident kindergarten students who can be enrolled at Tully Elementary.

Information about the screening process for both grade levels will be mailed out to enrolled students in the spring. Please don't hesitate to contact the elementary office at 315-696-6213 if you have specific questions about the registration or screening process.

## Safety Patrol 22-23

Tully's Safety Patrol is growing! More and more students are taking an interest in keeping each other safe during the drop off and pick up process. In fact, the 22-23 Safety Patrol has almost doubled in size going from 25 fifth and sixth grade students last year to 47 this year! All students had to go through an application process and be approved before they could join the Safety Patrol. It is wonderful seeing the students with their safety belts on each day looking out for each other!



#### **PTO News**



Congratulations to each of our students that participated in the summer reading challenge! They did wonderfully! For the month of November, the PTO held an apparel sale which featured Tully "gear." Hopefully everyone was able to find something for themselves or a family member. Each year, the PTO runs this sale as a service rather than a fundraiser. These items make great Christmas gifts, too!

During the month of December, the PTO is holding a book fair. This is something that we did last year as well. Please reach out if you would like to volunteer your time. We can always use extra help in setting up the fair as well as working during the day. As with the apparel sale, books make great Christmas presents! There will be more information coming out soon regarding the book fair dates, so stay tuned! We want to wish our Tully families a happy holiday season!

PTO meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month during the school year. 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 donate. Thank you for supporting the TES PTO.

## **ATHLETICS**

#### **CONGRATULATIONS** to the Athletes of the Month! September: Ian Rauber and Alexa Shay

October: Braden Switzer, Katie Edinger, and Will Lund November: Jasmine Phillips and Ryan Rauber

## **Fall Recap**

It was a very successful fall. Not only did our teams compete at a high level, but our athletes showed tremendous competitive drive and sportsmanship on the playing fields. The Varsity Boys' Soccer team advanced to the Class C Sectional Semifinals before dropping a hard-fought match to Cooperstown. This young team won a league title, set a school record for wins in a season, and several players broke school individual records. The Varsity Girls' Soccer team advanced to the Sectional tournament as well. The team finished the year with 11 wins and a share of the Patriot League title. The Varsity Boys' Cross Country team finished as one of the top teams in the Patriot League. They won a league title and advanced to Sectionals. The Varsity Girls' Cross Country team showed unbelievable improvement throughout the year. This inexperienced team battled all season and ended up as the Patriot League champions. The Varsity Golf team finished the year with an 8-8 record, winning 8 of their last 11 matches. Southern Hills Storm football narrowly missed out on the Class C Sectional tournament. The Southern Hills Storm Cheer team had a great year. This team was very well choreographed and supportive of the football team all year.

# TULLY JR/SR HIGH SCHOOL

## **FFA Travels the US to Convention**

FFA members attended a 7-day trip to the 95th National FFA Convention & Expo from October 23-29. On our way to Indianapolis, Indiana,



convention & Expo from October 23-29. On our way to Indianapolis, Indiana, we made multiple stops and learned about agricultural businesses. The first day on the road was spent at an apple orchard in Binghamton where we learned about the struggles of a family-owned business and how they overcome obstacles. At the end of the day, there was a ghost tour in Gettysburg, PA where we learned more about the history of the war.

The second day, we toured Arlington Cemetery, visited the Holocaust Museum, and took a self-guided tour around Washington D.C. Tuesday, we were headed towards Indianapolis, stopping at the University of West Virginia to tour their facilities which included a campus tour, a greenhouse tour, and

a tour of their research farm. After the college visit, we stopped at the Anthony Thomas Chocolate Factory in Ohio that is famous for their buckeye candy. The last stop was at a fish hatchery, Fresh Water Farms, that raises around 100,000 fish every year.

The next day we toured the South Side Landfill which is the municipal solid waste collection site for all of Marion County, IN. After returning from the tour, we walked around the center before dinner and the Lauren Alaina/Jimmie Allen concert. Thursday, we went to the First General Session where we were welcomed by the National FFA Officers and listened to the keynote speaker, retired WNBA Player, Tamika Catchings. We then went to the World's Toughest Rodeo where we got to watch bronc and bull riding! During the last days of the convention, we attended workshops, and walked around the shopping center and expo where we learned about different colleges and businesses. It was a great time of traveling, learning, and making friends, and we are already looking forward to next year! \**Article courtesy of junior Megan Weisbrodt* 

#### Principal's Message



Michael O'Brien

As we start to think about shorter days and the winter season ahead, we hope that everyone had a wonderful and restful Thanksgiving Holiday and enjoyed the company of friends and family! It's hard to believe that we are only a few weeks away from the winter holiday recess and the beginning of a new year!

A month ago, at the Junior-Senior High School, we introduced a new leadership program called Daneli Partners. The training was facilitated by three leadership professionals from the Daneli Partners group. These facilitators formed relationships and bonds very quickly with our students. Mr. Dando, Ms. Krumbach, and I are the staff liaisons for this leadership opportunity. The program was made available to juniors and seniors throughout the building. We had about 20 students sign up and those students spent a full morning learning about their own leadership styles and strengths. Before the training, each student took the Gallup Clifton Strengths Assessment. This survey informed each student of their individual strengths, which they then used to have group conversations about how to use their individual skills as

leaders throughout the building, in their activities, on their teams, and within their clubs. To the best of my knowledge, this is the first formal leadership program offered at the Junior-Senior High School. The students told the staff liaisons that the training was great! We anticipate part two of this year's training, with the same students, taking place in late January or early February. It is our intent to continue with the program next year with around 20 more students and some turn-key style training within the building. We are very excited about the potential for this program and all of our future leaders!!

Additionally, we would like to remind all of our families that every student has the opportunity for continual academic support. Please remember that every day, except for Tuesdays, we offer our Activity Period directly following 9th period. This is an excellent time for students to take advantage of seeing their teachers with specific questions and increasing their knowledge in areas of interest.

We wish everyone a safe holiday season!

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

## P2 Reboot

The JSHS took action and rebooted their P2 initiative this year. Focusing on six main characteristics throughout the year, homeroom teachers will present each characteristic and facilitate students in engaging discussions. The counselors will then prepare lunchtime activities for students to further their understanding, think outside the box, and make meaningful connections to the characteristics. The JSHS began with Open-Mindedness in October. After teachers presented a video and got discussions going, students then participated in activities throughout the week during their lunches. Students enjoyed trying new activities like hula hooping, jumping rope, limbo, and juggling while their peers cheered them on. Imagery puzzles were also posted throughout the lobby for students to ponder over. In addition, a "Mix-It-Up"



lunch was conducted where students sat at designated lunch tables according to the color they were given. This allowed them to talk with peers that they may not otherwise speak with on a daily basis. A few opted out, whereas many participated, trying out the skills of the open-minded. An Activities Fair was also held on the JSHS campus for students to gather information on clubs that are offered. While this did not directly correlate with the P2 activities of Open-Mindedness, it allowed students to explore clubs that they may not have otherwise explored on their own. Many clubs had several new additions to their rosters. The JSHS is excited to see where the Positivity Project Reboot will take them!



Jackson Deal, a 2nd Lieutenant in the Army and Tully graduate, paid the 8th grade history classes a visit in October. Lt. Deal spoke about his experience after high school during training and the process he went through being at Virginia Military Institute as opposed to a regular college. He then helped prepare students for a Veteran's Day activity that they would participate in during their Flex classes. Lt. Deal explained the difference between Memorial Day and Veteran's Day and the meaning behind the holidays. He also filled the students in on a little military history. Students learned the difference between an enlisted person and an officer, military rankings, and what the parameters of being an MP (Military Police) were. Lt. Deal was a great primary source for these students!

#### **Senior Spotlight - EVERETT CHAMBALA**



People/Pets in your family: My mom and dad, siblings Wesley and Ellie, my dog, Sunny, my 3 cats and kittens, and a rabbit. What has been the best part of your

high school career and why? Probably all of the clubs/extracurricular activities I've been in. I have had so many good experiences with different teams and groups, and I've been able to make friends from those activities that I probably wouldn't have known outside of them.

What is your proudest moment in high school so far? My proudest moment has been being Student Body President. I'm very proud of myself when I see things happen that I've been responsible for, especially the Club Fair and the change in the hat policy.

What are your plans after high school? I plan to go to college and eventually make it into law school.

Where do you see yourself in ten years? Hopefully as a successful lawyer who drives a nice car, preferably a Porsche.

What challenges have you faced and how have you overcome them? Really finding myself and where I fit in has been difficult for me, especially with two years spent inside and away from the world. It's still a work in progress but taking some time to think about what's really important to me helps a lot.

**Who's your hero and why?** My hero is my grandma, who goes by Grammie Pat. No matter what she is going through in life, she always keeps a good sense of humor and a positive attitude, which inspires me to deal with my problems in a similar way.

## **Senior Spotlight - DANIEL FINN FOODY**



People/Pets in your family: Dan Foody, Carolyn Foody, and Thomas Foody What has been the best part of your high school career and why? The best part of my high school career has been being able to build relationships with both peers and teachers. Doing so has allowed me to get to know those that I'm talking to and learning from every day and made the overall experience more enjoyable.

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What is your proudest moment in high school so far? My proudest moment so far has been finishing my junior year. It was the most challenging year for me both academically and personally, which made it all the more rewarding to complete.

What are your plans after high school? After high school I plan to pursue a college education in the field of criminology and go on to work in law enforcement on a state or federal level.

Where do you see yourself in ten years? In ten years I hope to be working in the field of law enforcement and potentially beginning the process of starting a family of my own, as well as hopefully still pursuing the outdoors and its endless opportunities.

What challenges have you faced and how have you overcome them? The greatest challenge I've faced has been time management between school, extracurriculars, and personal time. The best way I've found to manage this issue is by keeping track of my assignments in one place and taking them one at a time, and to make sure that I take time for myself when I need it.

## Walk Across NY

As Mr. Paccia started his 40th year of teaching at Tully this year, he thought about how he got there. He realized that his strongest positivity character trait must be "Perseverance." He acknowledged that throughout his teaching and coaching career, he had been modeling this trait and instilling it in his athletes and students whether it was running a 10-mile practice run or finishing a cutting board. On the first day of school this year, he began a project to model this trait further. He began walking five laps around the PE/art wing and through the lobby during the last ten minutes of 6th period lunch carrying a sign that identified "perseverance." Mrs. Abrams and Ms. Paccia both soon took on the task during the other lunches. When starting the task, Mr. Paccia never said a word to get students to join him during his walks but by the third lap, he had several students join him on his journey. They have since walked five laps every day since school started in all three lunch periods. Some days there are four students and some days twenty. Mr. Paccia began adding up the mileage and plotting it on a map of NY state. Their walk across NY soon turned into a walk around NY. By now, their trek would have taken them to the western border and then back towards NYC. After NYC, it's onward towards the Adirondacks. What a wonderful way for Mr. Paccia to share his perseverance with those around him!





NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2022

## **DISTRICT NEWS**

## **From the Interim Superintendent**



The school year is moving along at full speed, and we are already planning for end-of-the-year activities and preparing for the budget vote in May. Halloween and Thanksgiving are behind us, and the holiday season is approaching. Sometimes that means stress for a lot of the families in our school community and the community at large. Let's lean on the lessons learned from Covid and continue to support each other during difficult times.

As mentioned, the budget development is underway. The Board of Education and I encourage community members to attend

or view the meetings to become familiar with the process and to provide input. The actual Public Hearing and formal presentation of the proposed budget will take place on May 8, 2023.

My job as your Interim Superintendent has come to an end and I want to thank everyone for making this "job" one of the most enjoyable experiences of my professional career. Tully truly is an amazing place full of wonderful students, a caring staff, and a vibrant community. Every person I have interacted with has been welcoming and works as a team to ensure each other's success. I am grateful for this opportunity and will take many fond memories with me.

Now a new chapter begins for Tully as the torch has been passed to your new Superintendent. I am confident you will find Dr. Woodcock to be totally vested in the school and community, an active listener, and an advocate for children as she leads Tully to the next level academically and financially. I wish her and the entire Tully community a bright and promising future. Please take care of each other and, hopefully, our paths will cross again.

> Michael J. Hoose, Interim Superintendent Phone: 315.696.6204 • Email: michael.hoose@tullyschools.org

## **Kickin' Cancer: The Tradition Continues**



For the past six years, Tully and Fabius-Pompey have come together to help fight cancer by raising funds and battling it out on the soccer field. This year was no different in that aspect. Both the boys and girls played an impressive game, giving their audience a great show. This year must have been lucky number seven for the Tully boys as the only difference was that they took the title of the Route 80 Cup! More importantly, proceeds in the amount of \$12,443 were divided between the Upstate Cancer Center in Syracuse and the Carol M. Baldwin Breast Cancer Research Fund. Over the 7-year span, the two communities have raised over \$65,000 to help fight this horrible disease. What a wonderful continuing tradition!

## Board of Education Meetings 22/23

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

school year is as tonows.	
December 19, 2022	April 17, 2023
January 23, 2023	May 8, 2023
February 13, 2023	May 16, 2023
March 6, 2023	June 12, 2023
March 27, 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.

#### **Board Members**

2023	Mrs. E. Fay Burt (315) 440-6149
2023	Mrs. Jane Byrne-Panzarella (315) 696-8540
2025	Mrs. Ryan Chatfield (315) 560-0680
2024	Mrs. Colleen Kania (315) 559-9108
2024	Mrs. Andrea Mourey (315) 427-7444
2025	Mrs. Bettemae Russell (315) 696-6843
2024	Mr. Edward Wortley, II (315) 696-8609

#### **Parks and Rec News**

Parks and Rec **Basketball** season is here, registration is open!

**3-6 grade practice** will start November 15th with league play starting in January. We play in the John Tobin league in Cortland. Games are played on Saturdays and Sundays, January - March.

**1-2 grade** is a co-ed league played Saturday mornings at TES gym.

We always need, and greatly value, our parent volunteer coaches. Please consider helping out!!

**REGISTER AT ACTIVE.COM-Town of Tully** 

## **DISTRICT NEWS**

#### Culture Corner -



Did you know that Kazakhstan is the largest country in Central Asia and the ninth largest country in the world? Kazakhstan is home to over nineteen million people and a wide variety of animals such as elk, antelope, wolves, snow leopards, and sable. You can find many terrains from desert to mountains; however, much of the country is inhabited by agriculture plains with goats and sheep as the main livestock. Kazakhstan borders other countries such as China and Russia and its capital is Astana. Kazakhstan has temperatures similar to NY, apart from the extreme -49 degrees and 113 degrees that have been recorded in the past. This year, Tully is proudly hosting a student from Kazakhstan.

## Alumni News

Dr. Corinne M. Burns, PhD, recently earned a doctorate degree in Oceanography from the University of Quebec at Rimouski. Dr. Burns is a 2009 graduate of the Tully Central School District who went on to receive a BA degree from Boston University in Marine Science. She then earned her mas-



ter's degree in Marine Science from the University of Texas at Austin Marine Science Institute. Corinne attended Tully Central Schools from kindergarten through 12th grade and was active in several sports. She is very appreciative of the education and guidance from the fine teachers and administrators at TCSD.

## **Halloween Happenings**



Halloween is always a fun time for our students. This year at the elementary, the 5th and 6th grade chorus and band performed wonderfully spooky music for the younger students before the seniors walked across the elementary stage for the last time. The younger students loved seeing the big kids portray some of their favorite cartoon characters. When the seniors left, it was the younger students' turn to parade through the courtyard while parents looked on and took pictures. Fairies, ghosts, wizards, princesses, lots of dinosaurs, and so many creative costumes were seen. After the parade, students went back to their classrooms for a fun-filled day of activities, food, and learning.





Take a break from the hustle and bustle of the holiday season this month and come to the library! We have Imagination Monday on Dec. 5 for second through fourth graders right after school. It's a fun afternoon of arts and crafts! Teens and tweens can enjoy DIY and crafts too at our Trouble Makers pop up maker space on Thursday, Dec. 1 and 15. We also have our Minecraft and Video Game Club on Dec. 8 and 22 this month. Thursday programs start at 4:30 p.m.

Join us as we welcome Pet Partners of CNY to the library after school on Wednesday, Dec. 14. You'll get to meet a therapy dog and even read to him if you like!

Plans are in the works for some fun activities for kids during school vacation week. Please check our website for updates as plans get finalized. Make sure to check out our selection of holiday books and DVDs to help add to your celebrations!

The library will be closed on Saturday, December 24 and Monday, December 26 for the Christmas holiday, in addition to Saturday, December 31 for New Year's Eve. We will be closing early at 3 p.m. on Friday, December 30 as well. We hope you enjoy your holidays!

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#### TO: LOCAL POST OFFICE BOXHOLDER OR RURAL ROUTE PATRON

#### TULLY CENTRAL SCHOOL EVENTS







