

Issue:
October
2023



KNIGHT INSIGHT



School Year 2023 Looks Bright

The 2023-2024 school year has begun, and students are in a good routine. The first day was a tad warm but that didn't deter students from enjoying their new classrooms and meeting new additions to Tully CSD. Superintendent Dr. Woodcock was seen welcoming students at the buses while the principals were busy making introductions and greeting their respective student bodies. Picture Day, Homecoming, and the beginning of activities and sports have taken place. In addition, the seniors are enjoying their newly painted parking spots. New staff have acclimated to their schedules and lessons are being taught in engaging manners. Now that a routine has been established at both schools, students and staff alike are continuing to enjoy the new accommodations that the Capital Project has afforded us. The beginning of the school year started off on a good note and the rest of the school year looks bright!

We encourage parents and guardians to download the ParentSquare app to always have an easy way to communicate with Tully CSD. You can also keep up with all things Black Knight-related through the District website, Facebook, Twitter, and of course, the *Knight Insight*.



Principal's Message



Edward Kupiec

We are in full swing here at TES! Students are receiving excellent instruction and our renovated music areas and bathrooms in the original part of the building have been met with rave reviews by students and staff. If you have any lingering questions regarding the classroom and/or instruction after this first month, please do not hesitate to reach out to your child's teacher(s).

In P2, students learned more about the strengths of Curiosity and Teamwork and are currently learning about Open-Mindedness. This month, students will also learn about being present along with the strengths of Integrity and Creativity. Be on the lookout for more information about Halloween later this month through ParentSquare and student backpacks. Our annual event will take place on Tuesday, October 31st.

Enjoy the transition to fall. If there is anything you would like me to highlight in the *Knight Insight* or my ParentSquare posts, please let me know.

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

PTO News

Hello families! We hope that the new school year has been kind to you all and that your children are all settled in with their teachers. We would like to thank everyone that participated in the Summer Reading program. Each participant will receive a small prize. We were happy to see everyone who came to the "Back to School Night" in September. What a great turnout! Coming up for the month of November will be our Spirit Wear/Tully Gear sale. This is not a fundraiser, rather a service to families who would like to acquire more Tully clothing and accessories. More information will be provided at a later date.

Feel free to check on the happenings of TES PTO by visiting and joining our Facebook Group, "Tully Elementary PTO" or the PTO page on the Tully School website. Our meetings are typically held virtually on the second Wednesday of the month, unless otherwise indicated. Our next meeting will be October 11, 2023. A link to the meeting will be sent out via ParentSquare as well as being posted on our Facebook page. All parents of TES students are welcome and encouraged to attend. We are a 501(c)(3) organization and gladly accept tax exempt donations. Please inquire if you wish to make a donation. Thank you for your continued support of the TES PTO.

ATHLETIC NEWS

Winter Start Dates

October 30 - Winter 1 Junior High Season - Boys Basketball and Volleyball

November 13 - JV/Varsity Winter - Basketball, Volleyball, and Indoor Track

January 8 - Winter 2 Junior High Season - Wrestling and Girls Basketball

Game schedules can be found on the school website under departments<athletics>sport schedules. Don't forget to follow Tully athletics on Instagram (tullyathletics) and Twitter (@tully_athletics)!

New HS Fitness Center Hours: Monday - Friday 4:30-6:30 p.m.



Thank you to all of our **custodians** that work tirelessly to make our schools a wonderful place to learn! Please join us in celebrating these amazing individuals on National Custodian Day, Oct. 2, and every day! See a custodian? Thank a custodian!

Principal's Message



Michael O'Brien

As school is now in full swing, the days are getting shorter and the weather is beginning to change. This can cause many of us to slow down and lose momentum. I would like to take this opportunity to discuss with all families the importance of staying engaged. Along with this coincides student attendance. We are well aware that students get sick and families have extenuating circumstances where students are unable to come to school. We want everyone to know that it is important to stay home and rest when not feeling well. However, we encourage all students to be present as many school days as possible and to have a plan to make up work when they do need to miss school. We recommend that all students meet with their teachers upon returning to school after an absence to develop a plan or to schedule time for make-up work. All of our teachers want to facilitate this process and are willing to work with all of our students. Activity Period is a great time to utilize and it is important that our students take advantage of this time set aside and the relationships that they have with their teachers.

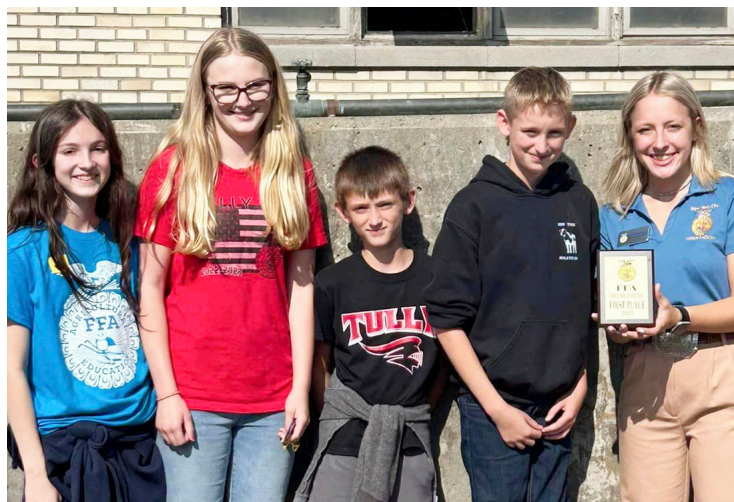
Many studies have shown students who are chronically absent from school (students who miss 10% of school days) are significantly more likely to have struggles in school and be less connected with the school community. During our first day grade-level assemblies, the importance of good attendance and developing positive connections in school was emphasized with our students. It is our goal to have every student involved and feel part of our school community, and attendance is a critical factor in reaching this goal. If at any time families need support with student attendance please contact me in the main office at 315.696.6235 or the counseling and career center at 315.696.6240. Our intent is to partner with all of our families and students to ensure that each student is successful throughout their academic journey.

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

FFA Starts Academic Year Strong

Our FFA is hard at work and started off the academic school year strong. Thirteen members represented Tully at the New York State Fair, earning several awards that they are sure to be proud of. Both the Junior Dairy team consisting of Clara Currie, Ashley Ellis, Sythe Brown, and George Currie, and the Junior Horse Judging team consisting of Ashlynn Lucas-Santos, Maddy Bennett, and Hailey White were deemed State Champions after they took first place. In addition, the Poultry Judging team consisting of Megan Weisbrodt, Lily Darling, Lila Greczyn, and Colt Baritell placed fourth overall. Individual awards were given as well to the teammates: Clara Currie – 1st place, Ashley Ellis – 4th place, Sythe Brown – 7th place, Ashlynn Lucas-Santos – 1st place, Maddy Bennett – 2nd place, Hailey White – 3rd place, Megan Weisbrodt – 7th place, and Lily Darling – 10th place. In other categories, Hannah Brenchley placed eighth in Dairy Handling and Maddy Bennett placed third in Tree ID.

Four students also traveled to the State Fair to volunteer in the Dairy Cattle Birthing Center. Students helped with the delivery of a calf, feeding, taking care of the calves and cows, and informing the public about dairy farming. What a great start to all things FFA-related this year!



Nikki Allen



I am thrilled to be joining the clerical staff here at Tully Jr-Sr High School. I grew up in DeRuyter and currently live with my family in Otisco. I have been married to my husband Toby for almost 15 years and

we have two sons. Logan is in 8th grade and Lawson is in 5th grade. I love to spend time with family and friends and love to travel. I also love to watch my children do what they love; for Logan that is playing sports and Lawson loves to ride his dirt bike. This past year I enjoyed subbing at the school and getting to know the staff and the students. I am very excited for this year and to have the opportunity to work full time at the school.

Kurt Betters



I am so excited to be back within the Tully Community! I currently live in Homer. I have a cute little family with two children. I previously lived in Tully and was a part of the fire department for a few years and loved every

minute of it. Now I am back in this town driving a school bus and looking forward to the future driving all the wonderful children to school and home safely every day.

Robert Jocz



I am enthusiastic to be joining the staff at Tully Jr-Sr High School to be a teacher for Spanish 1a and 1b. I grew up in the Syracuse area and graduated from West Genesee Senior High School with a Seal of Biliteracy (in

English & Spanish). I attended Onondaga Community College and Binghamton University where I received a B.A. in Spanish and a Master's of Teaching in Spanish Adolescence (7-12). Previously, I taught 8th grade at Maine-Endwell Middle School in the Binghamton area. Before going into education, I worked in restaurants and in the floral industry while attending college. In my free time, I enjoy traveling, hiking, painting, playing instruments, and making crafts. I am excited to immerse myself in this wonderful community. This is going to be a great school year!

Tarah Kadlubowski



My name is Tarah Kadlubowski. I am very excited to be a bus driver for the Tully School District. I was born and raised in Fabius and now my husband and I are raising our two children there. We have a daughter who

is a junior and our son is in 8th grade. You normally will find me at one of their many functions. I am looking forward to safely transporting your children to and from school!

Timothy Lynch



I am very excited and thankful to be joining the Tully CSD team. I'm coming to Tully CSD from Baldwinsville CSD where I was the District Treasurer/Accountant for the past 19+ years. I have had plenty of experience with

school district accounting, but now I get to learn all the aspects of being part of the Business Office. I live in Baldwinsville with my wife and two children. My son just started eighth grade and my daughter started sixth grade, both attending new schools this year. I love to play golf, watch live sports, attend concerts, and hang out with my large family in the Syracuse area.

RJ Malabanan



I've always wondered what was there when you take Exit 14 on I81. I'm now thankful to know! I am honored to be part of such a wonderful school district and most especially a dynamic World Language Department at the

Junior-Senior High School. I was born in the Philippines and grew up in Staten Island. I moved to Central New York for graduate school over ten years ago after studying abroad at the Universidad de La Rioja and teaching English for four years in Logroño, Spain. I received my Master of Arts in Spanish Literature and Linguistics from Syracuse University. I also have a Master of Arts in Teaching from SUNY Empire State University. At present, I live in the Ellis Hollow neighborhood outside of Ithaca. There I taught for five years at Tompkins-Seneca-Tioga BOCES. In addition to English and Spanish, I am a proud heritage speaker of Tagalog (Filipino) and have attained an intermediate

level in French and Italian. I am very fascinated by how people use language and am a curious lifelong learner. I look forward to getting to know our students at Tully and my new colleagues.

Cameron Morgan



I am the new Social Studies teacher at the JSHS where I am teaching both 8th and 9th grade students. I am from Alexandria Bay, NY, and recently moved to Fayetteville, NY after graduating from Buffalo State

with my teaching certification. My undergraduate degree is from St. Lawrence University, which is a bachelor's in political science. I love to watch sports, including the New York Rangers, and enjoy being outdoors boating, swimming, and golfing. I am so excited to be a part of the Tully community and have heard wonderful things about the staff and students! Go Black Knights!

Lauren Northrup



I am so fortunate and excited to be part of Tully Elementary School as the new library media specialist! I have a background in ELA, receiving my bachelor's degree from SUNY Oswego and becoming a certified English teacher.

However, I became enchanted by becoming a school librarian instead, and have recently obtained my master's degree in library and information science from Syracuse University. I have worked with various school librarian mentors as part of my learning experience and continued to fall in love with the role of librarian! I am thrilled to share my love for reading with the students at Tully Elementary, and make the library space a hub for exploration, creativity, and learning for both students and teachers alike! In my free time, I love to paint, bake, cuddle up with my Siberian husky, Silver, and of course, read a great book!

Extra Info: Social worker **Melinda McCullough (formerly Hathaway)** has moved to the Jr-Sr High School.

Shawn Tracy



I am excited to be joining Tully Junior-Senior High School as the new Technology Education teacher. Last spring, I was able to student teach in Tully, having the chance to meet and work with many of the students and teachers. While here I was able to help integrate a number of hands-on projects for different grade levels. I have a degree in Industrial Design from Rochester Institute of Technology and a degree from SUNY Oswego in Technology Education. I have worked for many years as a carpenter, cabinetmaker, and furniture maker, eventually running my own business. I have a true passion for creating, designing, and building, and can't wait to share my experience and knowledge with new students. I'm looking forward to a great year!

Sarah Tully



I grew up in East Aurora, New York, which is just outside of Buffalo. I received my degree from SUNY Cortland and also played on the women's basketball team there during my undergraduate years. I am currently working towards my master's degree in health education through SUNY Cortland in addition to teaching physical education here at Tully. I am a huge Buffalo Bills fan and love going to the games. I am looking forward to having a great year here at Tully!

Jenny Wheeler



I grew up in Syracuse, NY and am the youngest of four children. In college, I majored in music performance. I have been married twenty-two years and we have one son. I am presently a school bus driver but have been a bus monitor and food service worker as well. I've also worked as a CNA in the Alzheimer's Dementia Unit. I have many hobbies including travel, anything home economic-related, and I prefer to play a sport rather than watch one.

Emergency School Closings

During the school year, there may arise emergency situations when school may close, be delayed, or dismiss early. Local radio stations and local news channels provide school-related closing information. This information is also posted on our website (www.tullyschools.org) Additionally, Tully Schools uses ParentSquare to send out emergency notifications. This notification system allows school administrators to contact all parents/guardians and staff by phone, email, and text, in order to communicate information about emergencies, school closings, delays, early dismissals, important school events, and reminders. This notification system uses the parent and staff contact information that we have on file in SchoolTool, so please make sure it is up to date and accurate. Parents or guardians with questions regarding ParentSquare should contact Sherry Huggins at sherry.huggins@tullyschools.org or 315-696-6236.

Alumni News

Over the summer, Tully alum **Jessica Donald** was donned the *Big South 2022-2023 Women's Scholar-Athlete of the Year*. This was in addition to being named the women's soccer *Offensive Player of the Year* at the same time, a feat that has not been accomplished by any other student.



Donald has made great strides as an athlete and a student during her time at Campbell University, impressing those who have worked with her. Donald now attends Campbell University as a graduate student, currently holding a 4.0 GPA. Her parents are proud of all her accomplishments. Bill Donald, her father and also known as Coach Donald on Tully campus, was named Tully's 2023 Coach of the Year, making earning titles something that runs in the Donald family.

SCHOOL CENSUS – All Families with Small Children

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

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

ADULTS IN HOUSEHOLD

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

CONTACT INFORMATION/PHYSICAL ADDRESS

MAILING ADDRESS _____

EMAIL ADDRESS(ES) _____

PHONE NUMBER(S) _____

LANGUAGE(S) SPOKEN IN THE HOME _____

CHILD(REN) IN THE HOUSEHOLD

Last Name,	First Name,	Middle Initial	Date of Birth	Relationship	Please check here if your child receives early intervention services
_____	_____	_____	_____	Male / Female _____	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____	_____	_____	_____	Male / Female _____	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____	_____	_____	_____	Male / Female _____	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____	_____	_____	_____	Male /Female _____	<input type="checkbox"/>

From the Superintendent



As we transition into the vibrant month of October, I'm delighted to share some important updates about our school community.

First and foremost, I want to highlight the dedicated efforts of our Board of Education. They are elected volunteers who have been working tirelessly to ensure the continued excellence of our school district. Their commitment to our students and community

is commendable. Additionally, we added two new members to our governance team. Their perspective is invaluable, and I'm confident they will contribute greatly to our future endeavors. Board members will continue to engage in the work of several committees. This year's committees are Academic Advisory, Athletic Advisory, Audit, DEI (Dignity, Equity, and Inclusion), Facilities, Health and Safety, Policy, and Wellness.

In addition, we are nearing the final stages of our current capital project. This project is a testament to our commitment to providing a safe and conducive learning environment for all students. We look

forward to its completion in late fall, which will benefit our entire school community. In the elementary school, the auditorium, band room, music room, physical education office, and bathrooms are now open. At the JSHS, the fitness center, locker rooms, nurse's office, counseling suite, and large group instruction room are open. Thank you for your continued investment in our schools and facilities.

I am thrilled to welcome new students and families to our district. You are now Tully Black Knights! In addition, several new staff members joined our team bringing fresh perspectives and expertise. Together, we are building a nurturing and enriching environment for our students to thrive.

As we embrace the autumn season, let us continue to foster a sense of unity and purpose within our Tully Central School District. Working together, we can ensure that our students receive the best possible educational program.

Thank you for your continued support, and I look forward to a successful and rewarding year ahead.

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

Positivity Project

Tully Central School is proud to continue as a partner school for the Positivity Project (P2) in 2023-2024! By now, most students are familiar with P2 and the 24 character strengths, common vocabulary, and philosophy of the Other People Matter mindset. Watch how P2 is used in school and how it can transfer into the community!

Open Monday - Friday from 10 AM - 7 PM
Saturdays 10 AM - 2 PM • Closed Sundays

Tully Free Library

tullyfreelibrary.org

12 State Street • 315-696-8606

Happy autumn! What do you enjoy most this time of year? Picking apples or pumpkins? Looking forward to fall holidays? This season of shorter days and cooler temperatures is the perfect time of year to have a book to read.

The library has a nice selection of fiction, non-fiction, biography, and graphic novels, in both our kids and teens sections. Stop in and see what we have!

Don't have a library card? It's easy to get one! Students as young as kindergarten age can apply for a card. Stop in for more information today!

There are books about apples and pumpkins (and lots more) waiting for you!

Board of Education Meetings

The planned schedule for Board of Education meetings for the 2023-2024 school year is as follows:

October 10, 2023
 November 14, 2023
 December 12, 2023
 January 16, 2024
 February 13, 2024
 March 5, 2024
 March 26, 2024
 April 16, 2024
 May 7, 2024 (Public Budget Hearing)
 May 21, 2024
 June 11, 2024

2023/24 Board Members

2025	Mrs. Ryan Chatfield	boe.rchatfield@tullyschools.org
2024	Mrs. Colleen Kania	boe.ckania@tullyschools.org
2026	Ms. Jessica McAnaney	boe.jmcananey@tullyschools.org
2024	Dr. Andrea Mourey	boe.amourey@tullyschools.org
2025	Mrs. Bettemae Russell	boe.brussell@tullyschools.org
2026	Ms. Cheryl Wayne	boe.cwayne@tullyschools.org
2024	Mr. Edward Wortley, II	boe.ewortley@tullyschools.org

TULLY CENTRAL SCHOOLS
20 State Street, Tully NY 13159

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OR RURAL ROUTE PATRON

TULLY CENTRAL SCHOOL EVENTS



OCTOBER

- | | |
|-----------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| 9 | Columbus Day – No School |
| 10 | Superintendent's Conference Day/
BOE Meeting, 6:00 p.m. |
| 17 | JSHS College and Career Fair |
| 25 | JSHS Band/Choir Concert, 6:00 p.m. |
| 26 | NHS/Spanish NHS Induction,
6:00 p.m. |
| 27 | JH Dance, 6:30 p.m. |
| 30 | JH/Mod. Winter I Sports Begin |

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



@tully_csd



Tully Central
School District



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