

# Academic Highlights

## Congratulations to...

Tom and Conor McNamara, THS students, placed first in their category in the THS Science Olympiad. Jonathan Chirico and George Kyriakakos, TMS students, placed second for meteorology in the TMS Science Olympiad.

Michael McHugh, TMS student, earned top score on the schools' National Geography Bee.

Our middle school students, Amber Cannale, Katie Ferrone and Justine Ferreira attended the Presidential Inauguration in D.C.

The following high school students were selected as winners in this year's Art and Essay Contest for the 18th Annual Community Interfaith Holocaust and Human Rights Commemoration:

Emily DiRenzo  
Tess Meyer  
Natalie Nisca  
Jourley Perez

1st place in the Essay Contest  
3rd place in the Essay Contest  
3rd place in the Essay Contest  
3rd place in the Art Contest

## Did You Know?

A Student Mentor Program for Band has been developed and implemented by our THS student, Thomas McNamara, for his Eagle Scout Project. We have 12 mentors in this volunteer program who will be trained and supervised by our THS-TMS Band Teacher, Sandy Garufi.

Ten middle school students have been selected to represent Tuckahoe in the All County Choral Festival held at the SUNY Performing Arts Center on Saturday, March 21, 2009. The following students are: Julia Moschetta, Nicole Almena, Daniela Pelligrini and Kaila Veal (All County Elementary Chorus); Kelly Raho, Ellys Holding Coleman, Alexis Coleman, William Burke, Amber Cannale and Andres Olivio (All County Intermediate Chorus).

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### Where to find information about the Tuckahoe Schools:

**Website: [www.TuckahoeSchools.org](http://www.TuckahoeSchools.org)**  
Our website provides information about each of our schools as well as contact information, procedures, upcoming events, etc.

Channel 77 (Cablevision) and Channel 27 (Verizon) Tuckahoe Educational Access Cable programming highlights our school events (concerts, presentations, sports, graduations, Board of Education meetings.)

Office of Communications  
Contact Dr. Michael Yazurlo at 337-6600, ext. 251 or  
email: [supe@tuckahoe.lhric.org](mailto:supe@tuckahoe.lhric.org)

Other contacts:  
To reach the Board of Education, contact the District Clerk, 337-6600, ext. 262 or to send comments or questions, email our District webmaster: [donnelyc@tuckahoe.lhric.org](mailto:donnelyc@tuckahoe.lhric.org)

**HOW TO SIGN ON TO K-12 ALERTS - EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION SYSTEM.** Please log on to our web site: [www.tuckahoeschools.org](http://www.tuckahoeschools.org) and click on **K-12 ALERTS** to register for email and text to cell alerts 24/7.

As part of the All County Chorus program, these middle school students also participated in essay writing about what their music program means to them.

Julia Moschetta, 6th grader, was chosen by the Westchester County School Music Association, to read her essay at the concert on March 21st. More than 200 students competed for that honor. Congratulations, Julia!

The following middle school students will participate in the NYS School Music Association (NYSSMA) Festival on May 15, 2009:

Chris Ushay	Trombone	8th grade
John Roque	Alto Sax	8th grade
Casey Stevko	Clarinet	8th grade
Liam Davis	Snare drum/timpani	6th grade

Another competition was won by high school student Emily DiRenzo for first place in the "Let's Face It" essay contest sponsored by My Sister's Place. Emily was honored at The Ritz Carlton on March 12, 2009.

Our marching band participated in the Yonkers St. Patrick's Day parade on Sunday, March 8, 2009 and the Eastchester St. Patrick's Day parade on Sunday, March 15, 2009. The band's performances were outstanding!

We would like to acknowledge the following band students:

Monique Fiore, Marleen Ehring, Mary Ehring, Chris Porpora, Tim Moroney, Kaitlin Boyer, Mike Collins, Gianella Todaro, Alessandra Cirillo, Xavier Griffiths, Liam Davis, Jack Chirico, Chris Ushay, Thomas McNamara, Mark Sarno, Tim Clarke, Nicole Barros, Peter Costa, Chris Conkling, Conor McNamara, Samantha Romano, Anna Diop-Dia, Libby Lefer, Mike McKeon, Leonardo DaSilva, Maggie McNamara, Kelly McKeon, Frank DeRuggiero, Christian Frankor, Steve Walsh, P.J. Castracucco.

Our Cottle Elementary School was chosen to be included in the 2009 World's Largest Concert DVD. Our 4th and 5th graders in Catherine Leon's choral class were chosen for this concert. The art work by Kim Derbin, our Cottle Art Teacher, was also shown on the video.

Our 7th grade girls attended the "Explore Your Opportunities Conference" at Barnard College in March. The purpose of the conference was to encourage female students to pursue careers in math and science. The following students attended:

Monica Calce	Lindsay Lebert
Amber Cannale	Melissa Leo
Anna Diop-Dia	Lily O'Toole
Katie Ferrone	Elizabeth Reichelt
Laura Fitzpatrick	Leah Romero
Tatiana Gargiulo	Abby Stupple
Adrianna Killip	Georgina Torres

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**Tuckahoe Athletics**

Our students and teams were recognized for their achievements during the 2008-2009 sports season:

**Ice Hockey**

**All League**

Michael Ciotti

**Honorable Mention All League**

Christopher Bellotti

**Football**

**Section I All State**

Steve Walsh

Anthony Gentile

**Girls' Varsity Basketball**

**All League**

Katrina Blackman

Trenna Seney

**Honorable Mention All League**

Kaitlyn Raymond

Lauren Mitchell

Noelia Soto

**Honorable Mention All Section**

Trenna Seney

**Boys' Basketball**

**All League**

Matthew Tibbs

Shaquille Griffiths

**All Section and All Conference**

Shaquille Griffiths

**Bowling**

**All League**

Gina Luizzi

Nicholas Fortugno

This year's tax rate increase is 2.88%. The Board of Education adopted the 2009-2010 school year budget at its April 13, 2009 meeting. Please remember to vote on Tuesday, May 19, 2009. Look for your budget newsletter which contains important information and highlights of next year's budget.

Please note that over the past eleven years we have reduced costs to the district in the following ways:

- ☞ District transportation - Given to the District Clerk
- ☞ Assistant Superintendent - Given to Principals and Superintendent
- ☞ Director of Curriculum - Given to Principals
- ☞ English Teachers at high school - Reduced from 4 to 3
- ☞ CPSE Chairperson (Pre-School Sp.Ed.) - Given to Special Education Director
- ☞ Assistant Principal at Cottle - Cut
- ☞ Director of Facilities - Given to Superintendent

These are just a sample of the savings enjoyed by the community over the past several years. Combine this with the energy savings, transportation savings through the partnerships with Bronxville, Eastchester and Pelham Schools, shopping for the best service and least expensive service providers in the areas of food service, special education services and programs, health insurance, liability insurance, copy machines, supplies and cleaning materials, you can clearly see our efforts to curtail costs have been ongoing.

Our investment has been and remains in the quality of our instructional program which you have so generously supported.

**Tuckahoe Union Free School District**  
29 Elm Street  
Tuckahoe, NY 10707

Board of Education  
Anthony Buonocore, President  
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Patrick Gallo, Trustee  
Sheree Raho, Trustee  
James Oliverio, Trustee

Michael V. Yazurlo, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools  
(914) 337-6600, ext. 250 (914) 337-3072, Fax



[www.tuckahoeschools.org](http://www.tuckahoeschools.org)

## Construction Corner

We continue to monitor punch list items. Some minor work and corrective measures will be addressed this summer. We have also completed the re-insulation of heating pipes in the tunnels at the high school.