

Tuckahoe Happenings

November 23, 2023



MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

DR. AMY GOODMAN



As we enter this first holiday weekend of the season, families and friends will gather together to celebrate everything for which they are grateful. I wish to communicate my appreciation to the Tuckahoe community. What a privilege it is to serve as superintendent in such an engaged and caring community! Whether it is the PTA's dynamic programming, the strong partnerships with local leaders, or the ways in which families support our educators' efforts, there is a great deal for which my leadership team and I are deeply thankful.

To the educators and staff that come to work every day with the motivation to make our students' lives better: thank you. I am grateful for your intellectual curiosity, professional commitment, and ceaseless compassion. Our students are so fortunate to have each and every one of you. I hope you can sense their gratitude as you enter into this holiday with your families.

To everyone who may be traveling, hosting, visiting, or just taking some time to slow down and be mindful, I wish you all a healthy and happy Thanksgiving.

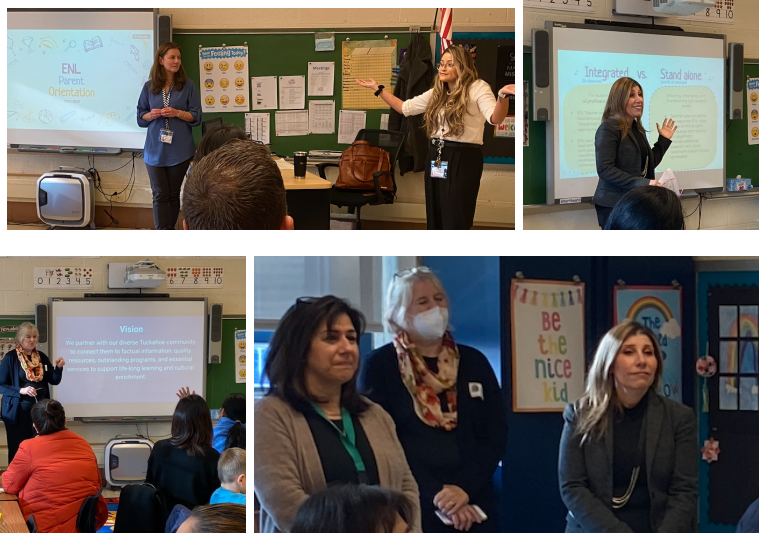
Celebrating our Varsity Football Team



We are very proud of the coaches and players on the 2022 Tuckahoe Tigers Football! We celebrate an undefeated season, a Section One Class D Championship, and (most importantly), the display of character throughout the season. This is a great group of athletes who support one another on and off the field. We are proud of our Tigers for an exemplary season!



Family Information Breakfast



Our ENL department, along with Dr. Keogh, invited families of multilingual learners to an information breakfast. The team shared information about language acquisition as well as school resources and community organizations. Families had an opportunity to get to know one another. Tuckahoe is a wonderful place, and we were happy to welcome these families and celebrate what their children bring to our classrooms.

Flexible Seating for our Kinders

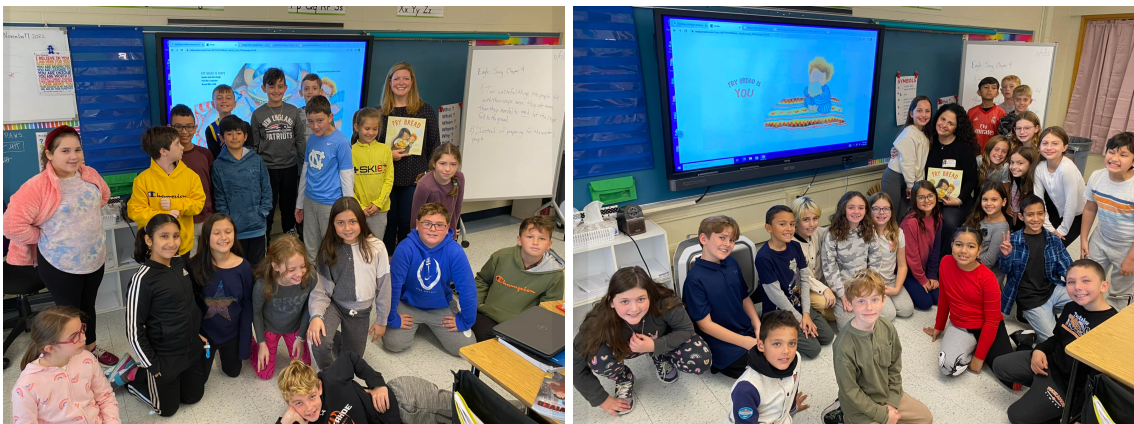
Who says everyone has to be seated the same way in order to learn? Co-Teachers at Cottle are trialing some flexible seating with our students, and so far we are finding terrific results! Students are engaged and excited to demonstrate their learning when presented with different options! They are excited to find their very best “learning spot!”



Mystery Reader Presents *Fry Bread*



Ms. Thomas-Hatcher/Ms. Quartararo and Ms. Merkel's mystery readers read *Fry Bread: A Native American Family Story*. The book helps students understand the term Native American and that there is no single story that represents what it means to be indigenous. This week, they will discuss the history of Thanksgiving and have students share their heritage and cultures, as well as important family traditions.

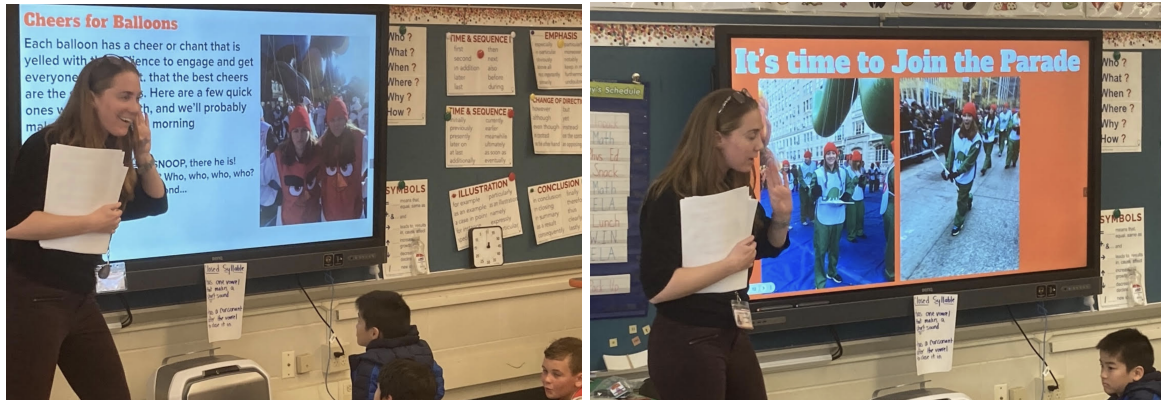


Lego Portraits with STEM



The students in Mrs. Pappas' STEM with LEGOS Club created portraits of themselves or characters with LEGOS. This form of pixelated art illustrates to students the basic building "blocks" of digital images. Two students from Ms. Crotty's class even made a portrait of her!

A Lesson from a Local Expert Balloon Wrangler



Ms. Connolly presented to the third grade her experiences as a Macy's Thanksgiving Day Balloon Holder. Third graders will have their own "Thanksgiving Parade" on Wednesday. Ms. Connolly provided first-hand experience on how you become a balloon holder, the responsibilities during the parade, the special cheers you chant for the balloons, and much more! She also taught the students some of the histories of the balloons. Students received official Macy's Balloon Holder Instructions and had a chance to look at Ms. Connolly's parade pins. It was engaging for all. **Look out for Ms. Connolly on Thanksgiving, carrying the Astronaut Snoopy Balloon!**

How do you become a Balloon Handler?

To become an official handler, you have to fall into one of two criteria: be a Macy's employee, or be sponsored by one. Since many people who land the role return year after year, it makes the number of open spots pretty limited.

My cousin Megan has been in 16 parades! This year will be my 5th parade!



Straight Line Please!

As we wait to join the Parade, the Captains will take this opportunity to create straight lines, and possibly reposition some handlers. Any repositioning will occur to ensure their safety and the welfare of the balloon. Please remember which handler is in front of you and to your side (you'll need to know for "SWEEPS" you'll do later). Feel free to ask any of the Captains to grab your phone and take pictures. We'll go over our cheers as we wait.



AP Teachers Dive into the Data



In order to support our most rigorous and engaging classrooms, teachers of our Advanced Placement classes are working with Dr. Cathy Gmoser on using formative assessment data. In this session, teachers explored the types of data available through the AP Classroom platform and how it can be used in planning upcoming instruction.

Principal Pajama Read-Aloud

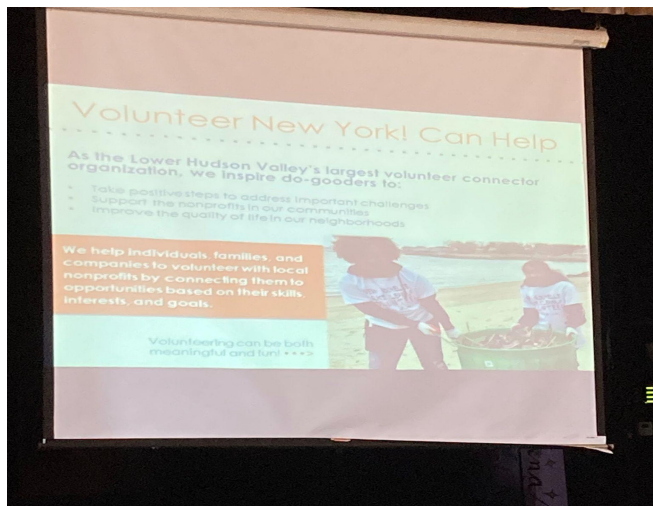


To celebrate Parents as Reading Partners (PARP) week, many of our Cottle Cubs joined Mr. Kilgallen and Mr. Morash for a pajama party read-aloud. Mr. Morash and Mr. Kilgallen read Dr. DeSoto, a clever story about a mouse dentist who takes pity on a fox with a toothache. After removing a rotten tooth and replacing it with a gold one, Doctor De Soto and his assistant trick the hungry fox by gluing his teeth shut. Hilarious!

MS/HS Assembly with VolunteerNY



On Thursday 11/17, Volunteer New York, came to Tuckahoe HS/MS to visit with our 7th - 10th grade students. The speaker discussed community service, taking positive action, community building, and using volunteerism for personal growth. This is part of Volunteer NY's 'Be The Change' Program.



Read All About It! The PTA Quarterly Newsletter is Now Available



TUCKAHOE PTA NEWS

Fall 2022



PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Wow! We are six weeks into the school year and how busy, and productive we have been. My name is Peggy Angello and I am the new PTA President. I am so excited for this coming year and all of the great events we have planned.

Our PTA is an integral part of our three schools, working together with the TUFSD and each school. The vision of Tuckahoe PTA is to enable parents, teachers and community members to come together to support our students and teachers, with a strong focus on education, safety, health, culture and social responsibility. Towards this, we run several programs and always look

Upcoming PTA Events

Cottle Halloween Night
Oct 28

Books & Bite Lunch Book Clubs Start
Nov 2: Cottle 3-5 Grades

Cottle Picture Day-Re-Takes & Siblings

The first quarterly PTA Newsletter of this school year is out. Read about what we've been up to and keep up to date on upcoming events and activities!

<https://tuckahoepta.com/2022/10/28/pta-fall-newsletter/>

Facilities



Food Service

Children need healthy meals to learn. Tuckahoe Union Free School District offers healthy meals every school day. Your children may qualify for free meals. Please visit https://www.tuckahoeschools.org/food_service for more information. Gluten Free, Kosher and Halal options are available upon request. Please contact our Food Service Director at Quatrochi-Jacquelyn@aramark.com or at 914-337-6600 x 1232.



Cottle Turf Field

We are all committed to providing high-quality and safe playing surfaces for our multi-use athletic facilities and playgrounds, but we need the help and consideration of the community and all user groups in protecting the community's investment.

The Cottle turf field is prohibited from public use while school is in session or during school-related events.



TURF FIELD RULES

- NO BICYCLES, SKATEBOARDS OR ROLLERBLADES PERMITTED ON TRACK OR TURF FIELD.
- NO PETS PERMITTED.
- NO METAL CLEATS, HIGH-HEELED SHOES OR BARE FEET.
- NO DRIVING STAKES.
- NO USE OF ANY GAS-POWERED VEHICLES, BIKES, OR ATV'S.
- NO REMOTE CONTROLLED RECREATIONAL OR HOBBY TOYS OF ANY KIND, INCLUDING DRONES.
- NO GOLFING, GOLF PRACTICE OR CHIPPING.
- NO SMOKING, VAPING, OR ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES.
- NO LOITERING.
- NO FOOD OF ANY KIND, SUNFLOWER SEEDS OR GUM.
- WATER IS THE ONLY BEVERAGE ALLOWED ON THE TURF FIELD. ALL OTHER BEVERAGES INCLUDING GATORADE AND OTHER SPORTS DRINKS ARE PROHIBITED. ALL DRINKS MUST BE IN NON-BREAKABLE BOTTLES ONLY.
- NO CANDLES OR OPEN FLAMES.
- APPROVED ATHLETIC EQUIPMENT ONLY.
- NO ENGAGING IN COMMERCIAL ACTIVITY, VENDING, OR ORGANIZED SPORTS EXCEPT BY PERMIT.
- ADULT SUPERVISION REQUIRED. PLAY AT YOUR OWN RISK.

Help keep our grounds clean. Appropriate litter and recycling receptacles are placed at the field and must be used at all times. No littering or dumping of debris.

Anyone caught trespassing or vandalizing these premises could be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.

Thank you for your assistance and cooperation.

Cottle Playground

The Cottle playground is prohibited from public use while school is in session or during school-related events.

PLAYGROUND AND BASKETBALL COURT RULES

- DO NOT USE PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT INAPPROPRIATELY.
- DO NOT USE EQUIPMENT WHEN WET.
- NO RUNNING, PUSHING OR SHOVING.
- NO BARE FEET. WEAR PROPER FOOTWEAR.
- NO BIKES SCOOTERS, SKATEBOARD, SKATES OR SIMILAR ITEMS ALLOWED WITHIN PLAY AREA.
- NO PETS IN PLAY AREAS.
- COURT IS FOR BASKETBALL ONLY.
- NO FOOD OF ANY KIND OR GLASS CONTAINERS IN THE PLAY AREA.
- ADULT SUPERVISION REQUIRED FOR USE. PLAY AT YOUR OWN RISK.



Help keep our grounds clean. Appropriate litter and recycling receptacles are placed at the field and must be used at all times. No littering or dumping of debris.

Anyone caught trespassing or vandalizing these premises could be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.

Thank you for your assistance and cooperation.

Transportation Reminders!

As a reminder to families, please see the bus stop safety information below and share it with your children:

Before the Bus Arrives

Your child should arrive at the bus stop at least five minutes before the bus is scheduled to arrive. When the bus approaches, stand at least three giant steps (6 feet) away from the curb, and line up away from the street. Remind your child that the bus stop is not a place to run or play. Please stay off of private property when waiting for the bus and wait at the designated official bus stop.



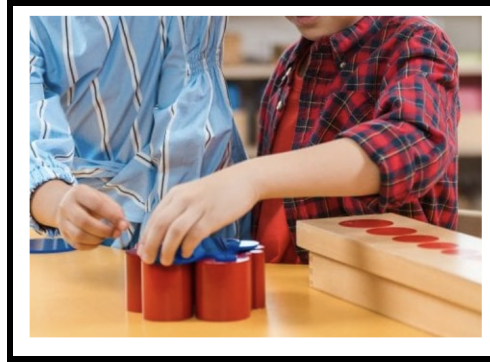
Getting On and Off Safely

When the school bus arrives, your child should wait until the bus comes to a complete stop, the door opens, and the driver says it's okay to get on or off. Your child should use the handrails to avoid falling.

Always Use Caution Around the Bus

Your child should never walk behind a school bus. If your child must cross the street in front of the bus, tell them to walk on a sidewalk or along the side of the street to a place at least five giant steps (10 feet) in front of the bus before crossing. Your child should also make eye contact with the bus driver before crossing to make sure the driver can see that they're crossing to avoid the danger zone. If your child drops something near the school bus, like a phone or book, the safest thing is for your child to tell the bus driver right away. Your child should not try to pick up the item, because the driver might not be able to see them.

Universal Pre-K 23-24 - Free Pre-K by Lottery!



There will be a webinar on **Wednesday, December 7, 2022, at 7 PM** for all parents/guardians interested in our Free Preschool, UPK 4's program, for the 23-34 school year, with tour dates announced at that time as well. More information to come.

Board of Education Meeting Update

The next scheduled Board of Education Workshop will be held on:

Monday, December 5, 2022, at 7:30 PM in the MS/HS Auditorium

To access the meeting via live stream, please click on the link below:

www.tuckahoeschools.org

Board of Education agendas, policies, and other related documents are available in [BoardDocs](#).

Other Local Events!

PTA UPCOMING EVENTS NOV/DEC 22

Date of Event	Event Title	Location	Start Time	End Time
11/2, 11/9, 11/16, 11/30	Cottle 3-5 Books and Bite Book Clubs			
11/18/2022	6th Grade Friday Fun Night	TMS Gym		
11/18/2022	WEC Picture Retake/Absentee/Siblinging/Club Day			
11/29/2022	Have You Started Saving for College?	Generoso Pope Foundation	7:15 PM	8:45 PM
12/1/2022	Lola Shopping Event			
12/5/2022 - 12/9/2022	Cottle Holiday Boutique	WEC Auditorium Hallway	8:30 AM	3:00 PM



From our PTA!

HAVE YOU STARTED SAVING FOR COLLEGE?



Tuesday, November 29th

7:15 pm - 8:45 pm

The Generoso Pope Foundation, at One Generoso Pope Place (located near the Tuckahoe Train Station)

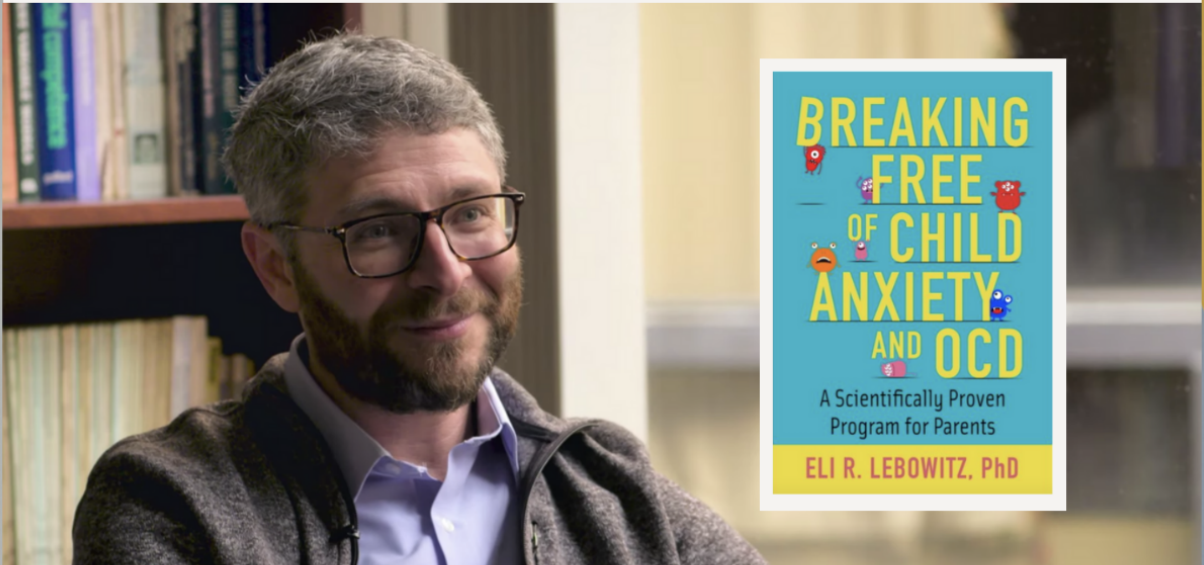
Saving for college can be intimidating, but it doesn't have to be! Join us for the Tuckahoe PTA General Meeting! Open and free to all! Our guest speaker is Shane Kelly, Financial Planner, who will discuss how to begin saving for college. Join us for some easy take-home tips from a professional and experienced planner.

All are welcome! You do not have to be a PTA Member to join us.

Light refreshments provided

Time: 7:15 for wine and chatting; 7:30 program begins.

Does your child have a lot of worries?



Join Dr. Emily Upshur and Dr. Sarah Bren of Upshur Bren Psychology Group for a free event with the author of Breaking Free of Child Anxiety and OCD, Dr. Eli Lebowitz.

Tuesday, December 13th at 7:00pm
The Picture House in Pelham, NY