

Tolland Public Schools *Superintendent's Bulletin*



Where Excellence Is Achieved Through Each Individual's Success



*Equity
over
Equality*



*Stimulate and Support
over
Rank and Sort*



*Transformative Practice
over
Tradition*

Here for you: 860-335-2455

UPDATE FOR June 3, 2019

CLICK BELOW for the individual BACKPACK for each school:

[BG](#)

[TIS](#)

[TMS](#)

[THS](#)



Dominique Fox, Principal of Tolland High School (THS), is proud to announce the Class of 2019 Valedictorian and Salutatorian.

Class Valedictorian, Kalina Bonofiglio

Kalina is an extremely bright individual who is an academically gifted student whose achievements distinguish her among others in the class. Since her sophomore year, she has enrolled in four challenging Early College Experience courses through the University of Connecticut, seven Advanced Placement classes in English, mathematics, and science, and Honors level courses in her remaining core classes. She has won numerous awards for earning the highest average in Spanish 2, Russian History, Honors English I, Honors Algebra II, UCONN ECE Biology, and UCONN Chemistry.

Kalina balances a demanding curriculum with involvement in several extracurricular activities, as well as service to her school and local community. Outside the classroom, Kalina is an avid writer. She has published a trilogy of books, *The Rise of the Octangle*, *The Secrets of the Lost Kingdom*, and *The Weapon of Peace*.

In her other area of interest, robotics, she has participated on Tolland's team for the past four years and has also served as judge and referee for multiple FIRST Robotics Lego League Tournaments. In addition, she was an ambassador at the District Championships in Boston, Massachusetts and Kalina earned the prestigious Dean's List Award for First Robotics which is based on demonstrated leadership and commitment, overall individual contribution, technical expertise and passion, entrepreneurship and creativity, and ability to motivate and lead fellow team members. She has also trained as a gymnast for over fourteen years at Wininger's Gymnastics in Manchester.

Kalina is an outstanding young lady who is driven to succeed and motivated to learn. She plans to major in Robotics and minor in Mechanical Engineering at the Worcester Polytechnic Institute. Congratulations Kalina!

Class Salutatorian, Gavin Rublewski

Tolland High School values the qualities of integrity, perseverance, and respect and endeavors to develop these characteristics in all our students. While Gavin is a remarkable example of all of these, he also shines in school as a true intellectual, an athlete, and a friend to all in our school community.

He describes himself as a goal-oriented person. Gavin is a very diligent, self-motivated and personable young man. His academic achievements distinguish him among others in the class. Earning high honors all sixteen quarters while at Tolland High School. Gavin has completed a very competitive curriculum, specifically five different advanced placement courses in mathematics, English, and science. He has also taken early college experience courses in UCONN Biology and UCONN Chemistry. Gavin was recognized with several awards of excellence in various academic areas including Honors Geometry, Honors Advanced Pre-Calculus, Honors United States History, Sports and Entertainment Marketing. For his work in mathematics and science, he earned the prestigious Rensselaer Medal Award.

As a junior, he was inducted into the Tolland High School's Mark Twain Chapter of the National Honor Society. Gavin has also served as a Peer Mentor the past two years. As a student-athlete, he competed each of 12 seasons during his four years at THS in soccer, basketball, and boys outdoor track. At the beginning of May, he was recognized by the Connecticut Interscholastic Athletic Conference as one of two Scholar-Athletes. Others see his leadership skills given he has served as captain of several athletic teams while at THS.

In the community, Gavin has volunteered at the Eagle Soccer Camp, refereed at the 3v3 Youth Soccer Tournament, assisted at middle school track meets, participated in the Project Graduation Bottle Drives, and worked with other parishioners at various church service projects.

Gavin is a fine young man who is enthusiastic about pursuing a degree in Mathematics, specifically Actuarial Science at the University of Connecticut. Congratulations Gavin!

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Feature Link (click a link to jump to a section)	Description
<u>Superintendent's Weekly Message/Feature</u>	This is the weekly message from the Superintendent. It is usually around some topic related to education and/or the school system.
<u>TPSTV! Tolland Public School TV!</u>	This is a page of the videos that have come out this week regarding the great things happening in the Tolland Public Schools!
<u>Breakfast with the Superintendent Dates/Times/Information</u>	This section provides information about the upcoming Superintendent's Breakfast. These are open meetings with no agenda in which the public is invited to come ask questions, and engage in conversation, about educationally relevant topics.
<u>Budget Blurb & Budget Information</u>	This section provides links and information with regard to the budget of the Tolland Public Schools.
<u>Community Learning Workshops</u>	This section provides information about upcoming workshops for the community.
<u>How to Contact the Superintendent</u>	This section provides information on the ways to communicate with the Superintendent based on urgency/level of importance.
<u>Job Postings</u>	This is a listing of jobs available at this time for the district.
<u>Links</u>	These are links provided from community members as well as links that may provide meaningful information.
<u>Mastery Learning</u>	This section has a brief synopsis of the Mastery Learning philosophy and plan for the district.
<u>Power School and Unified Classroom</u>	This section provides information to guardians and parents about how to access important resources for reviewing their child's grading, scheduling, attendance, and other information.
<u>Social Media Connections and Links</u>	This section provides information on the district social media sites.
<u>Volunteering Information</u>	This section provides information on how to Volunteer in the Tolland Public Schools.
<u>Snow delay and Cancellation</u>	This section provides information on snow delays and cancellations.
<u>Other Information</u>	Other information submitted by school or community members.

SUPERINTENDENT'S WEEKLY MESSAGE



**FYI-The last day of school for student is June 13, 2019.
Early Dismissal.**

Birch Grove Foundation Meeting Schedule

Meetings and Information Sessions

Meeting	Location	Date and Time
Superintendent's Breakfast	Superintendent's Office 51 Tolland Green, Tolland CT	March 4 th @ 10 AM
BGP Initial Foundation Information Meeting	Birch Grove Gymnasium	March 5 th @ 7 PM
BGP Foundation Information meeting	Birch Grove Library	March 11 th @ 6 PM
Town Meeting	Tolland High School Auditorium	March 27 th @ 7:00 PM
Superintendent's Breakfast	Superintendent's Office 51 Tolland Green, Tolland CT	April 1 st @ 10 AM
BGP Foundation Information meeting	Birch Grove Library	April 8 th @ 6 PM
Superintendent's Breakfast	Superintendent's Office 51 Tolland Green, Tolland CT	May 6 th @ 10 AM
BGP Foundation Information meeting	Birch Grove Library	May 6 th @ 6 PM
Superintendent's Breakfast	Superintendent's Office 51 Tolland Green, Tolland CT	June 3 rd @ 10 AM
BGP Foundation Information meeting	Birch Grove Library	June 10 th @ 6 PM



Approved 2019- 2020 School Calendar (small date correction)

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TOLLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS TV!



<http://www.tolland.k12.ct.us/cms/One.aspx?portalId=891651&pageId=42643379>

Check out our latest videos about what's happening in our schools!

Video link	Description
https://youtu.be/Io25CIsf40Q	One School - One Book - Encouraging reading in the Tolland Public Schools!
https://youtu.be/pkJUiBXII9E	Grade 3 Vocal Concert!
https://youtu.be/T9Y_VrSHDdE	The saying goes, "You can't make an omelet without breaking eggs ." Students in Mr. Barlow's physics class at Tolland High School believe that you can't learn science without breaking a few eggs.
https://youtu.be/BIdQIij8GyU	Staff Appreciation Day video!
https://youtu.be/XseyIL0lUyg	STEM FEMs! - Getting more girls into Science Technology Engineering and Math!
https://youtu.be/XgC0UWoTCVI	SPIRE - Check out the TPS Phonics Program!
https://youtu.be/KlqfWUJLB2M	REFLEX MATH! A TPS Math Program!

https://youtu.be/uZyXBDthWiM	Pi Day! The TPS make math FUN!
https://youtu.be/w6MYN8yob4A	A Culture of MUSIC in the Tolland Public Schools!
https://youtu.be/Y_cXdn7K-Ls	Math Haka @ TIS
https://youtu.be/L6ercj6dupM	TPS Business Academy
https://youtu.be/6TFQYiN4Utg	Tolland High School Madrigal Dinner
https://youtu.be/76P45CnN9Cg	Introducing the Tolland Public Schools <i>Foundations</i> Program! Getting a head start in Phonics!
https://youtu.be/c1UmCIHGHKE	BGP "adventure" backpacks for families!
https://youtu.be/ctTuHyDIb1I	BGP introduced to the DEWEY system!
https://youtu.be/iNM6coWkFzk	Stock Market Project - TPS Business Program
https://youtu.be/augmD6uciTI	TIS Honors Veterans
https://youtu.be/4SulaKIbtcA	TPS Honors Veterans
https://youtu.be/m7EI2w6VpbE	DECA Rules! - DECA & Business Program @ THS
https://youtu.be/HSU-6tNfSWg	David E. Golden Discovery Center
https://youtu.be/MkWA3cnGdio	Project Graduation
https://youtu.be/P79BWxz_el4	First Day at Birch Grove Primary School -2018
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K3lqlLPM-7s	Tolland High School Graduation Live Stream Tonight (June 22) at 6:00 pm.

https://youtu.be/a3LUr83YGMk	TMS Career Fair!
https://youtu.be/67ndMCLKFWI	Middle School X-block!
https://youtu.be/eOVWkBqtQao	March 14 th Assembly – In Memory
https://youtu.be/R0EGNXYnb0c	March 14 th Assembly – Student Voices – A Commitment to Change
https://youtu.be/UxbJOpmEzOo	March 14 th Assembly – Anatomy of a student rally
https://youtu.be/11U9ZLDRwQA	TIS Door Decorating for Safety
https://youtu.be/A2mvaaZJYh8	Read Across America at Birch Grove
https://youtu.be/z0or0x4kxoU https://youtu.be/tRHtaS-Mgr0	Students testing their “Space Landers”
https://youtu.be/CnN39L1G2es	Two entrepreneurial Juniors! Graduates of our TMS-E program!

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BREAKFAST WITH THE SUPERINTENDENT

10:00am

Tolland Board of Education Office

51 Tolland Green



June 3, 2019 – Last one

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EDUCATION BUDGET

Click below for Budget information located on the district website:



[http://www.tolland.k12.ct.us/board of education/budget](http://www.tolland.k12.ct.us/board_of_education/budget)

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COMMUNITY LEARNING WORKSHOPS

Done for this year... See you next year 😊

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HOW TO CONTACT THE SUPERINTENDENT



The link below offers the best ways to:

- * ask questions
- * request a meeting
- * address other concerns

http://www.tolland.k12.ct.us/DistrictOffices/superintendent_s_corner/superintendent_willett_s_page/contactme/

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JOB POSTINGS

HELP WANTED

Food & Nutrition Services has openings for substitutes for this school year and into next school year, with the potential to move into a permanent part-time position. Join our team in serving nutritious healthy meals to our students and work only while your children are in school!

If interested, please contact Kim at kmecteau@tolland.k12.ct.us or 860-870-6853, Ext 1.

SUBSTITUTES ARE NEEDED DISTRICT WIDE

We need teacher, paraprofessional, custodial and food service substitutes.

You can choose what, where and how often you want to work.

Paper applications are available at the BOE office or can be printed from our website

www.tolland.k12.ct.us

Under District/Human Resources/Substitute Forms

Food service applications are under District/Human Resources/Employment Opportunities or feel free to call Kim Mecteau at 860-870-6850.

If you are not interested, do you know someone that might be such as a college student or retired family member. Please send them our way.

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HELPFUL LINKS

[Photo Contest –Tolland Conservation Commission](#)

[CPR/AED Training](#)

[Children Summer Reading Program](#)

[Kids Yoga](#)

[Teen Summer Reading Program](#)

[Touch a Truck](#)

[Star Hill Summer Soccer Camp](#)

[Eastern Basketball Camps](#)

[Dan Hurley Basketball Camp](#)

[Eastern Soccer Camps](#)

Historical Society Intern Orientation Session Set for June 8

For the past decade, the Tolland Historical Society has been training 7th through 12th graders on all aspects of how museums run.

Through this successful internship program, students learn how to research and set up exhibits, accession artifacts donated to the society and give museum tours.

It's time to sign up new interns for this summer. An orientation session for interested 7th through 12th graders will be held on Saturday, June 8 at 11 a.m. in the shed area of the Old Tolland County Jail and Museum at 52 Tolland Green in Tolland.

The session lasts about an hour and includes a museum tour. For those unable to attend on June 8, please come to museum hours on Sunday, June 9 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. or contact Museum Director Kathy Bach at kwbach@gmail.com.



Hartford Public Library
Summer Learning
KICK-OFF
Celebration!



12:30 - 3 pm
Saturday
June 15
Downtown
Library
Inside & Out



Games!
Activities!
Live Music!
Give-aways!



Read.
Go.
Do.



Learning and fun go together all summer long at Hartford Public Library. Join clubs to learn and experience new things and win a specially designed pin for every club you complete. At the end of summer, those who have completed their tasks will get a free ticket to watch a Hartford Athletic professional soccer game! Ask your local librarian for more information, or visit summer.hplct.org.



Meet players and learn soccer skills from Hartford's new soccer team, Hartford Athletic, at the June 15th Summer Learning Kick-off!

If you require special accommodations to participate, please call 860.695.6320 two weeks prior to the event.



sandwiches • salads • fruits • milk

Free Summer Meals! **Comidas de Verano Gratis!**

Kids and teens 18 and under
Niños y adolescentes de 18 años y menos



FOR SITES NEAR YOU, CALL/LLAME **211**
TEXT **CTmeals** TO **877877**
www.CTSummerMeals.org

USDA IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER.

News from the Cafeteria



End of Year Student Account Balances -

All positive student balances stay in their account for use the next school year.

All negative balances must be paid before the end of the school year.

The Point of Sale System is set up as an opportunity to pre-pay for your child's meals. It is **debit, not a credit** system. On occasion, your student may have come through the lunch line without money in hand or in their account and we have allowed them to charge a meal.

As the end of the year approaches it is imperative that you pay your student's negative balance.

As of June 3rd we will not allow charging for the rest of the year. If your child does not have money in hand or in their account they will receive an alternate meal of either a peanut butter or cheese sandwich, a fruit or vegetable and a milk at BG and TIS.

At TMS they will receive a granola bar.

If your students has a negative balance they have been told repeatedly and/or you have already been contacted. If you would like to check the balance online and/or make a payment please sign up for "my school account" (where you can sign up for low balance notifications even if you do **not** use it to make payments). For instructions click [here](#).

You can also contact your school cafeteria or the central food service office for an account balance.

Thank you for your cooperation. If you ever have a question regarding meals in Tolland Schools please contact, Abby Kassman-Harned, Food Service Director at 860-870-6854 or aharned@tolland.k12.ct.us

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MASTERY LEARNING INFORMATION

The Mastery Learning Plan for Tolland Public Schools can be found at this link on our website:

http://www.tolland.k12.ct.us/DistrictOffices/superintendent_s_corner/superintendent_willett_s_page/mastery_based_learning/

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Power School and Unified Classroom Resources



Since February 2018, Tolland Public Schools began to use PowerSchool's Unified Classroom. Unified Classroom provides a comprehensive look at student growth and achievement, while providing a single sign-on opportunity for parents with multiple students in the district.

While the mobile app has not changed (Unified Classroom access does not change your mobile app access) and can still be used, the computer-based version of Unified Classroom provides a more detailed view, and we recommend that parents use both tools to gain knowledge about their student.

For directions on how to set up your Unified Classroom account, if you haven't already, you may always visit the Tolland Public School's website or any of the school websites and click PowerSchool in the upper right-hand corner.

If you have already created your Unified Classroom account and can successfully log in at classroom.powerschool.com, you do not need to do anything further. If at any time you need to reset your password, you may do this yourself using the Forgot Password option on the sign in page.

New to Unified Classroom or PowerSchool

If you have created a PowerSchool account but have not created your Unified Classroom account OR are new to PowerSchool:

1. Instructions to [Create Parent PowerSchool and Unified Classroom ID](#)
2. Link to the begin creating your account: [Tolland Student and Parent Portal](#)

Please feel free to contact the Educational Technology office with any login issues or questions at (860) 870-6818 x10804.

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CONNECT WITH US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!



www.facebook.com/tollandpublicschools



Search for:

[TPS Sup Willett](#)
Or
[Superint. Willett](#)

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VOLUNTEER INFORMATION



We would love to have you volunteer in our Tolland Public Schools!

We would love to have you come and volunteer at the Tolland Public Schools!

Please contact the Central Office with any questions. For those already volunteering, and those new to the game, the BOE will now do background checks every three school years. If you will be volunteering for the first time in the upcoming school year, please complete the [online form under Quick Links](#). After you have submitted your application, please call 860-870-6850 extension 1 to provide your social security number. You can check with the school secretaries to verify your status.

Please note these procedures are required for safety and legal reasons. A person *will not* be permitted to join trips, work in classrooms, or do other work associated with the students in the schools without ***completing*** this process. Doing paperwork in advance and in a timely manner will prevent applicants from missing important events and avoids unnecessary disappointments and exclusions.

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SNOW DELAYS AND CANCELLATIONS

Dear Parent or Guardian:

I want to take this opportunity to inform you of the District's procedures regarding school closings, delays, and early dismissals.

The decision to change school schedules is made after careful review of information collected from the local police, highway and school maintenance departments as well as a local weather service. Road conditions, sidewalk status, precipitation, temperatures and forecasts are considered when making a determination to delay or close schools. In some circumstances, a delay may be upgraded to a school closing. Information related to delayed openings and school closures is broadcasted on television and radio stations typically by 5:45 a.m. The safety of our children is the priority factor in all decision making.

BLACKBOARD CONNECT 5

The *Blackboard Connect 5* communication system is a telephone messaging service that the district uses which enables us to personally communicate with parents and staff regarding emergency situations, school closings and delays, school events and other important issues impacting you and your children. It is imperative that you keep a current emergency telephone number listed at your child's school building. In the event of an early dismissal or delay, a Blackboard message will be broadcast to all families by 5:45 a.m. During an emergency or weather-related incident, calls will be made through the emergency mode to all student numbers in the Blackboard system.

DELAYED OPENINGS

- This year we will utilize a two (2) hour delay.
- There is no morning (am) Birch Grove preschool classes on delayed openings.
- Buses will arrive at stops approximately two (2) hours later than the usual time.

EARLY DISMISSAL

- An announcement will be made on the radio and television stations, generally prior to 11:00 a.m.
- The high school is released at approximately 10:45 a.m. Tolland Middle School is released at 11:45 am and Tolland Intermediate and Birch Grove Primary School are released at 12:45 pm. (Please note that unusual circumstances may dictate an earlier dismissal.
- There are no p.m. Birch Grove pre-school classes on early dismissal days.

In the event of school closings or early dismissals, all sporting events and student activities will be cancelled.

TRANSPORTATION REGULATIONS

Students in grades PreK-5 will be returned to school in the event an adult is not present at the bus stop to meet them unless you have signed the bus stop release form.

ALL STORM ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announcements will be made on the following TV Stations:

WTNH

WFSB

WVIT

WTIC

It is the parent/guardian's responsibility to monitor weather related delays, closings, and early dismissals and to cooperate with school personnel as we work to ensure student safety.

TOLLAND FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER'S INCLEMENT WEATHER PROCEDURES

If Tolland Public Schools is closed due to inclement weather, then the Tolland Family Resource Center is closed.

Weather delays and early closings

FRC School Age Care

The Before School Program will follow the School System for delays:

* 2 hour delay, the FRC opens at 9:00 a.m. for children registered in the before-school program for that day. This is to allow enough time for the parking lot and sidewalks to be treated.

Early Dismissal

When there is an early dismissal due to inclement weather the FRC will close at 3:45 p.m. However, if Birch Grove and Tolland Intermediate School closes before 1:20 p.m. then FRC will close 2 hours after the end of school; example if Birch Grove/TIS close at 11:00 a.m. then FRC will close at 1:00 p.m.

Late pick-up fees apply on early dismissals. Please call if you are delayed for any reason.

FRC Preschool

If Tolland Public Schools has a **delayed opening** due to weather, FRC morning preschool will open at 11:00 a.m. and will run until 12:00 p.m. Four-Year-Old FRC afternoon Preschool will start at 12:00 p.m.

If Tolland Schools has an **early dismissal**, the afternoon Four-Year-Old FRC Preschool will be cancelled.

FRC Preschool Enrichment

If Tolland Public Schools has a **delayed opening** due to weather, FRC Preschool Enrichment will open at 11:00 a.m. and will run until 1:30 p.m. If school **closes early** Preschool Enrichment will close at 12:00 P.M.

FRC Play groups are cancelled on delays or early closings.

Finally, I want to assure you, once again, that our primary concern in calling a school delay, early dismissal or closure is always the *safety* of our children. If parents feel conditions are unsafe, they should use their discretion, and keep their children at home. Here's hoping for a warm and uneventful winter!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Walter Willett". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Walter" and last name "Willett" clearly distinguishable.

Walter Willett, PhD
Superintendent of Schools

OTHER INFORMATION

CHECK OUT THE DAVID E. GOLDEN DISCOVERY LAB!

A bus will take you there! Check with your school for the afternoon library bus!



<https://youtu.be/HSU-6tNfSWg>



There is something *incredibly cool* happening at the **Tolland Public Library**. *The David E. Golden Discovery Center*. The Golden GC has been made possible by the Tolland Education Foundation, and is to be dedicated in the memory of David E. Golden, a leader in the community and former President of the Tolland Education Foundation. The lab is open to the public and contains technology not available to the average person. The midi and music resources, video editing and production software, game construction software, and Oculus Virtual Reality stations (with software) make this lab one of the most cutting edge in the State of Connecticut. Call the library in advance or stop by to sign up for using this lab!

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