

# TPS SUPERINTENDENT BULLETIN

Here for you 860-335-2455



**UPDATE FOR 9/5/2017**

## **JUMP TO SCHOOL UPDATES:**

Please **CLICK BELOW** to get the **DIGITAL BACKPACK** information for the listed school:

[BG](#)  
[TIS](#)  
[TMS](#)  
[THS](#)

## **SUPERINTENDENT NEWS**

As staff have retired or resigned, we have new staff to meet at TPS.  
Please help me in welcoming them to our Tolland educational community!

## Welcome to our New Staff

Fernando Hernandez



Officer Hernandez comes to us from the State Troopers, recently retired. A parent with children in the school system, his parent perspective and dedication to the community policing will be an asset for the Tolland Public School system. Officer Hernandez joins Officer Forish as our other part-time School Resource Officer for the Tolland Public School system.

Kelly Catlin



Ms. Catlin taught Grades K-2 in Hartford for 9 years then became an Instructional Coach for Grades PreK-8 for 3 years. She is eager to get back into the classroom and looking forward to a tremendous year with her new team.

Kristine Person



Ms. Person has a Master's degree in speech-language pathology and previously worked in preschool and elementary school settings as a speech-language pathologist. She is excited to begin a new year at Birch Grove as the preschool speech-language pathologist.

Kristine Bickford



Ms. Bickford is a Special Education Teacher at Tolland High School. She has a Master's Degree in Educational Psychology from UCONN's Neag School of Education. Kristine enjoys teaching, reading, and spending time with her two daughters.

Erica Yaglowksi



Ms. Yaglowksi is a new 5<sup>th</sup> grade Math and Science teacher. She graduated from Uconn in 2015 with her Bachelor's in Elementary Education and Psychology and in 2016 with her Masters in Curriculum and Instruction. This past year she taught first grade in South Carolina. She is excited to begin her second year of teaching with Tolland Intermediate School!



## Kristine Volpe



Ms. Volpe is thrilled to join the Tolland community this year. In her free time, she is an avid bird watcher and aspiring wild food forager. Being outdoors with her friends and family is one of her favorite things. She looks forward to sharing her experience and enthusiasm for science with all of her students!

Jeremy Barlow



Having recently moved to this area from New York, Mr. Barlow is excited to begin a new school year teaching physics at Tolland High School. For the past decade he has been working at a school on Long Island where he taught physics and biology and served as the advisor to the Environmental Club and the Science Olympiad. He graduated from the State University of New York at Binghamton with a BS in Biology and Environmental Science and received a Master's in Teaching Secondary Science from Stony Brook University. Outside of the classroom, he enjoys cooking and baking, hiking, birdwatching, gardening and reading.



## Nicole Imperato



Ms. Imperato is the district Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA) for TIS and THS. She has been in the field since 2009. She received her Bachelor's Degree in Psychology from Eastern Connecticut State University in 2008 and her Master's Degree in Human Services with a concentration in Clinical Counseling in 2012. Nicole began working in the public schools as an ABA Therapist, where she fell in love with the work of Applied Behavior Analysis. She began to pursue her dream of becoming a BCBA. While completing her coursework she began to work at a private school for Autism where she spent 5 years starting as a ABA Therapist and advancing to a BCBA. Nicole has also worked in home programs, parent training, and private consulting. She grew up in East Haven, CT and currently resides in Vernon, CT. In her free time, she enjoys spending time with her family going to fairs, swimming, and going on adventure

**Kathryn Peel**



Ms. Peel is a new Kindergarten teacher at Birch Grove Primary School! She is excited to start her career as a teacher in such a wonderful and supportive community. She received her Bachelors in Elementary Education from Eastern Connecticut State University. During that time, I was an intern, and later a student teacher at Birch Grove Primary School. After earning my Bachelors, I went on to earn my Masters in Language and Literacy Studies at Wheelock College in Boston. In her free time, she enjoys running, going to the beach, and making crafts. She looks forward to a great school year!

## Dave Lang



Mr. Lang has been teaching in Connecticut for 13 years, most of which has been spent in middle schools. He is a self-professed “English geek,” and tries to keep up with most of the Young Adult literature that's coming out these days. In his spare time, he is usually cooking, cycling, and playing with his kids, quoting obscure 80's films...sometimes all at once."

**Max Bakke**



Mr. Bakke comes to Tolland Middle School after recently teaching in Mansfield. Before becoming a teacher, he was a journalist for newspapers and magazines for ten years. His favorite things are cooking, collecting vinyl records and spending time with his beagle. Not necessarily in that order.

**Jeffrey Even**



Mr. Even is thrilled to be working Tolland High School this year. Last year he student-taught at Avon High School and this spring he graduated from UConn's Teacher Certificate Program for College Graduates. He is looking forward to meeting many of the many excellent students and teachers here in Tolland!



## Hillary Balog



Ms. Balog received her Master's Degree from, Northeastern University in Applied Behavior Analysis. She has been a Board Certified Behavior Analyst for 5 years. Ms. Balog has worked with children diagnosed with autism for the past 10 years. Getting to know the students is the best part of her job. She is really excited to start this new chapter in her professional life and looks forward to meeting everyone!

Jen Jensen



Ms. Jensen grew up in Vernon, CT and attended Keene State College in Keene, NH where she earned a Bachelor's degree in Elementary and Special Education as well as English. She received her Master's degree in Elementary Education from CCSU. She taught third grade in Vernon for four years before leaving to raise her family. She has substitute taught in Tolland for the last four years and she is thrilled to be a fifth grade co-teacher at TIS.

## Tiffany Studer



Ms. Studer is excited to be working in Tolland. She will be a 3<sup>rd</sup> grade teacher this year. This will be her 5<sup>th</sup> year teaching & her first year at Tolland Intermediate School. She has taught 5<sup>th</sup> grade for the past four years in New Haven. Right now, she lives in Branford with her fiancé and their two cats. She enjoys swimming, biking, reading, and being with friends and family. She grew up in Palm City, Florida where she attended Crystal Lake Elementary for Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade. She graduated with a Masters of Science in Elementary Education K-6 from the University of Connecticut. At UCONN she student taught in first grade at Batchelder Elementary School in Hartford, and completed her Masters Year internship and thesis, the effect of Metacognition on Mathematical Achievement, at Kennelly Elementary School in Hartford.

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**HOW TO CONTACT THE SUPERINTENDENT:**



Please take a look at the link below for some of the best ways to get an answer, meeting, or something else:

[http://www.tolland.k12.ct.us/DistrictOffices/superintendent\\_s\\_corner/superintendent\\_willett\\_s\\_page/contactme/](http://www.tolland.k12.ct.us/DistrictOffices/superintendent_s_corner/superintendent_willett_s_page/contactme/)

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**Upcoming Budget/Town Council and BOE Meetings**

August 29<sup>th</sup> – Annual Budget Presentation, THS Auditorium, 7:30PM

August 30<sup>th</sup> – Budget Presentation, Senior Center, 12:30PM

September 19<sup>th</sup> – Annual Budget Referendum

BOE – 2nd and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month – 7:30 PM

August 23

September 13

September 27

October 25

Town Council- 2nd and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month – 7:30 PM

August 22

September 12

September 26

October 24

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### **NEWS FROM FOOD SERVICE**

#### **Much ado about MILK:**

From time to time the question arises, can the children be offered something *other* than milk with their lunch. While the question is an easy and straightforward one, like many things in life, there are some elements of complexity to the answer. In short, YES, you can, however it is federal regulation of the national school lunch program that milk is offered with lunch, or a nutritionally equivalent option is offered where allergies are a consideration. Only a "nutritional equal" substitute to milk may be offered in place of the milk component, unless there is approved medical documentation. Please see the [Milk Substitution Letter](#). We will also give children a glass if they wish to get water from the water fountain.



**Other forms and information:**

[Information on Supplemental Nutrition Assistance](#)

[FAQ'S-Free & Reduced Meals](#)

[Free & Reduced Meals Application](#)

[Free & Reduced Meal Application Letter](#)

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**Need the 2017- 2018 SCHOOL CALENDAR?**



[\*\*Click Here\*\*](#)

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### 2017 – 2018 SUPERINTENDENT MEETINGS

Superintendent/Board of Education <b>Budget Workshops</b> – 7:30 pm THS		Superintendent Community Workshops 7:30 pm – THS – Topics TBA
October 18, 2017		October 23, 2017
November 15, 2017		December 6, 2017
December 20, 2017		February 6, 2018
January 17, 2018		May 2, 2018
January 31, 2018		

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### 2017 – 2018 BREAKFAST WITH THE SUPERINTENDENT 10:00 AM AT THE TOLLAND BOARD OF EDUCATION



October 2, 2017  
November 6, 2017  
December 4, 2017  
February 5, 2018  
March 5, 2018  
April 2, 2018  
May 7, 2018  
June 4, 2018



## 2017- 2018 SCHOOL YEAR ATHLETIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING DATES

4:00 pm at Tolland High School

September 19, 2017

November 7, 2017

January 9, 2018

March 6, 2018

June 5, 2018

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## VOLUNTEERING



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

Thank you for all you do for 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.

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## CURRICULUM NIGHT/OPEN HOUSE



Birch Grove – Curriculum Night – 6:30 pm
Kindergarten – September 19, 2017
Grade 1 – September 28, 2017
Grade 2 – October 4, 2017

Tolland Intermediate School – Curriculum Night – 6:30 pm
Grade 3 – September 13, 2017
Grade 4 – September 27, 2017
Grade 5 – October 5, 2017

Tolland Middle School – Open House – 6:30 pm
Grade 6 – September 7, 2017
Grade 7 – September 12, 2017
Grade 8 – September 12, 2017

Tolland High School – Open House – 6:30 pm
September 14, 2017
February 8, 2018 (Snow Date – February 15, 2018)

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**YOUR TOLLAND SOCIAL MEDIA CONNECTIONS!**

**CHECK US OUT ON FACEBOOK:**



[www.facebook.com/tollandpublicschools](http://www.facebook.com/tollandpublicschools)

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**FOLLOW SUPERINTENDENT WILLETT ON TWITTER:**



Search for:

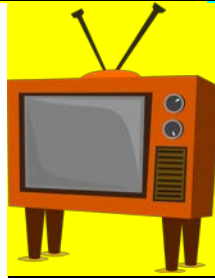
[TPS Sup Willett](#)

Or

[Superint. Willett](#)

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**GET ON TV WITH CVC!**



Get your program on TV with the help of Community Voice Channel, a non-profit public access television studio in Bolton serving Tolland. Community members can learn how to use field equipment to film any activities for FREE! The possibilities are endless. Field trips are also available to learn how to create a studio production. Email [Melanie@cvcct.org](mailto:Melanie@cvcct.org) or call [860-645-1454](tel:860-645-1454) to get started.



**LINKS AND OTHER ARTICLES OF INTEREST**

- [Girl Scouts Information](#)
- [Back to School Food Drive](#)
- [2017-2018 Student Insurance](#)
- [FRC Music Together](#)
- [FRC-Fall Playgroups](#)
- [FRC-September Newsletter](#)
- [FRC Spanish Program-Register Today](#)
- [National Drive Electric Week 2017](#)
- [School Resources Responding to Events in Charlottesville](#)