

05-15-23 Thurston PTO Newsletter

1 message

Thurston PTO <thu_pto@aaps.k12.mi.us>
Reply-To: Newsletter.ThurstonPTO@gmail.com
To: jeremydb@umich.edu

Mon, May 15, 2023 at 2:00 PM

Thurston Elementary PTO

Heron Happenings

May 15, 2023



Upcoming Events

May 16: PTO Meeting, 6:00 - 7:00p.m. ([Zoom link](#)) ([Add to Google Calendar](#)) ([iCal file](#))

May 19: Half day, dismissal at 11:28am (take home lunch will be available)

May 29: No school (Memorial Day)

June 2: Fun Run / Field Day

Help us fill the Teacher Appreciation Snack Cart!



The month of May is Teacher Appreciation Month at Thurston! Thanks to your support, the **PTO brought the Bearclaw Coffee Truck** to school last week so that teachers and staff could enjoy free coffee drinks, smoothies, snacks, and pastries! And, this week we are organizing a **catered boxed lunch from Panera Bread** for all teachers and staff! Finally, we'll top off the celebrations with our **Teacher Appreciation Snack Cart on May 24th!** The cart will go door to door to deliver sweet and salty snacks to teachers and staff! You can help us fill the snack cart with lots of goodies!

- Check out our [Amazon Wishlist](#) if you'd like to purchase packaged snacks and drinks for delivery to the school
- Check out our [Sign Up Genius list](#) to volunteer to bring in some of the more perishable items

As always, be sure to show our beloved teachers and staff some kindness and gratitude as well. A thoughtful greeting, email or handwritten note can really make their day. Don't forget to reach out to our [specials teachers and support staff](#) as well. If you're interested in donating classroom supplies, please check with the teacher first to see what is needed or whether they have a wishlist.

Congratulations to our Science Olympiad Team!



After months of hard work on the part of students (and the families who coached them), we had approximately **60 Thurston Herons from Grades 2-5** compete at this year's [Washtenaw Elementary Science Olympiad \("WESO"\)](#). Our Team Thurston had continued funding support from the Thurston PTO and administrative support from Kelly Delp. Not only did the Herons do fantastic work prepping and competing on behalf of Team Thurston, but we even had many of our student teams win medals. Out of 33 schools, WESO awards medals to the top teams in each event. Thurston students medaled (ranging in Honorable Mention through 1st place) in events related to physics, anatomy, robotics, chemistry, scientific writing, biology, and math. They did such a great job and we are so proud!

PTO Elections coming soon!

PTO Board Elections will be held by virtual email ballot the last week of May! We have 2 open board positions to fill, and we need to officially vote in our current Health, Safety and Wellness Officer.



PTO Board Candidate List (as of 5/15):

Co-Treasurer - Ying-Chieh Wang

"Hi, my name is Ying-Chieh Wang. My husband and I moved to the US in 2015 from Taiwan. I am a stay home mother with two daughters both in Thurston. After my younger daughter began to go to Thurston, I have been volunteering at school at least twice a week during lunch recess and during some class time when the teacher needs help. It is never easy to run a school and provide kids with happy, safe learning. I am excited to have this opportunity to contribute to the school and the community.

My English might not be perfect but fluent. My background is in Accounting, and I was a professional business purchaser in Taiwan. I enjoy making the budget for my family, tracking expenses, and analyzing the data periodically to seek improvements. I am confident that I will pick up quickly and start helping the PTO and Thurston community. Thank you."

Health, Safety and Wellness Officer - Gina Schneider

"I am Gina Schneider and our family was new to Thurston this year. I have two boys; my oldest is in first grade. I am interested in the Health, Safety, and Wellness board position because children's health and wellness has been a passion of mine for a long time. My undergraduate degree is in Kinesiology and my professional internship was with a non-profit working with public schools in Texas to encourage healthy movement and eating habits in elementary-age students. As a grad student in St. Louis, I became involved in educating underserved communities about healthy eating. I am also a certified yoga instructor. I am very excited to be involved with Thurston and see myself drawing upon all these experiences in my role as Health, Safety, and Wellness Chair."

We are still seeking candidates for the position of PTOC Representative. Please email pto.thurstonelementary@gmail.com if you are interested!

PTOC Representative (1 opening)

Attend and represent the Thurston PTO at the [AAPS PTO Council \(PTOC\)](#) meetings. Obtain options or recommendations from the PTOC to open items facing the Thurston PTO. Report back to the Thurston PTO as to new information from the PTOC.

Outside of our elected board positions, there are many other ways to be involved! Check out the [PTO website](#) for more information on vacancies. As always, feel free to reach out to the [PTO President](#) to learn more. Joining the PTO is a great way to meet fellow Thurston families, get to know the teachers and staff, and get involved in school activities!

Last PTO meeting of the school year tomorrow!



Join us **tomorrow night on Zoom from 6:00—7:00p.m. for our May PTO meeting.** We will hear updates from school and PTO representatives, and we will focus on discussing the budget for next school year. We hope you'll join us for this last meeting of the school year! All are welcome and encouraged to attend!

If you've missed previous PTO meetings, you can find meeting minutes (once approved) and meeting recordings on the PTO website [here](#).

Recess Volunteers



Can you believe there are only a few short weeks of school left? As summer break quickly approaches, **we are in need of some more adult volunteers to help out at recess from 11:50am-1pm.** If you have not volunteered before, this is a great time to help! To sign up, just go to our [sign up sheet](#), scroll down to the bottom to see the final weeks of the school year, and type your name and email into the date that you are available. Please check in at the office with your ID, and our recess supervisor Anne T. will help you get to a place where help is needed on the playground.

Thanks to all of our volunteers this year! You help us keep recess safe, orderly and fun for the kids!

Thurston Student Directory



Need to contact a Thurston parent or student? The 2022-2023 Thurston student directory is available [here](#). The directory is organized by grade (see tabs) and then alphabetically by class. If you registered prior to the start of school and indicated in InfoSnap that you wanted to be included in the directory, your contact information should be included. If you find a change needs to be made or do not see your information but wish for it to be included, please complete this [form](#).

The PTO wants to hear from you! [Email us](#) , [Visit our Site](#) or [Facebook Page](#)

Newsletter submissions due by Saturday, 5pm to: newsletter.thurstonpto@gmail.com

Ann Arbor Public Schools would like to continue connecting with you via email. If you prefer to be removed from our list, please contact Ann Arbor Public Schools directly. To stop receiving all email messages distributed through our SchoolMessenger service, follow this link and confirm: [Unsubscribe](#)

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