

## 10-03-22 Thurston PTO Newsletter

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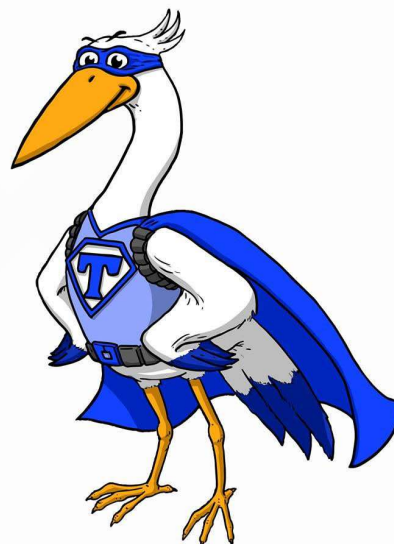
Thurston PTO <thu\_pto@aaps.k12.mi.us>  
Reply-To: Newsletter.ThurstonPTO@gmail.com  
To: jeremydb@umich.edu

Mon, Oct 3, 2022 at 12:50 PM

# Thurston Elementary PTO

## Heron Happenings

October 3, 2022



Thanks to everyone who attended the OHMHA Neighborhood Fall Festival and supported the Thurston PTO yesterday!

### Upcoming Events

**October 5:** Student Count Day

**October 12:** Walk & Roll to School Day

**October 18:** PTO Meeting, 6:00 - 7:00p.m.

**October 20:** Early Release Day, dismissal at 1:18p.m.

**October 31:** Thurston Halloween Parade (Time TBD)

### AAPAC Meeting Tonight



The Ann Arbor Parent Advisory Committee for Special Education (AAPAC, the district-wide group for families of students with IEPs and 504s) meets on the first Monday of the month from October to June. Our first meeting is Monday, October 3rd via [Zoom](#). We are hosting all 13 candidates for Trustee of the AAPS Board of Education to answer questions relevant to educating students with disabilities in the district. As usual, pre-meeting conferences with AAPS special education administrators are available before the main program. Agenda and links below:

**6:15 – 7:00 p.m.** Individual parent conferences with AAPS Office of Special Education. Administrators will meet with parents for up to 10 minutes on a first-come, first serve basis. Log into the main Zoom meeting and you will be matched with the AAPS Assistant Director based on your child's school or program to meet in a breakout room so conferences can remain private.

## **Main Program**

**7:00 – 9:00 p.m.** AAPS Trustee Candidate Forum

There are 4 open seats on the AAPS Board of Education this election year. Thirteen candidates will be on the November 8th ballot, and we are happy to host them at our traditional AAPS Trustee Candidate Forum. Each candidate will have the opportunity to answer 3 questions about educating students with disabilities in AAPS. The AAPAC Board will also gather audience questions via Zoom chat during the forum, which will then be sent to the candidates to answer after the event and the Q&A will be posted on our website, [a2pac.wordpress.com](http://a2pac.wordpress.com) within 1 week of the event.

**Zoom link:** <https://a2schools.zoom.us/j/97520333219>

## **Parent-Teacher Conferences**



The Thurston Parent-Teacher Conference window has opened! Please make sure you have signed up for a time to meet with your classroom teacher! We have so much to share and don't want to miss out on the opportunity to learn more about your child's success at school and how you can support from home! Contact your teacher today, if you haven't had a chance to sign-up!

## **Mark Your Calendars for Upcoming Health and Wellness Event!**



Thurston will join schools from around the country to participate in the 26th annual National Walk & Roll to School Day on Wednesday, October 12th. For those students that live within safe walking distance, we encourage you to walk or bike to school. For those students who ride the bus, we encourage you to walk to your bus stop or walk a lap around your home or building before getting on the bus! As a community, we can work together to decrease vehicle emissions, improve health by getting exercise, and form strong relationships with friends and neighbors while walking to school!

## **Volunteer as a Recess Monitor!**

**Thank you to all the parents who have signed up and started volunteering during the lunch hour!**



If you have considered it but haven't yet signed up, there is still time to do so. We could use more help (especially on Mondays from mid October through November).

Our school is in need of volunteers to help monitor the playground at recess. If you are interested and able to support Thurston's staff and students during lunch hour, please sign up for a day or multiple days during the week. Even If you have just one day this Fall that you can come, feel free to sign up for just one day. Any and all help is welcome!

**Thurston's recess goes from 11:45-12:55.** Volunteers should check in at the main office. Please arrive 10 minutes early on your first day to leave time to check in and see where our Lunch Supervisor, Anne T., most needs your help.

Please use this [Google Sheet](#) to sign up for a recurring weekday volunteer time or a specific date. If you have trouble with the sheet, please email the day or specific dates you can volunteer to [pto.thurstonelementary@gmail.com](mailto:pto.thurstonelementary@gmail.com) and we will get you signed up!

**Thank you for your time and service to the school!**

### Sign Up for Store Fundraising Now!

Here's a super simple way to support our Thurston community every time you shop!

Store fundraising is so easy, and it can really make a difference for our school. But, we currently **only have a small number of Thurston families participating**. Please take a few minutes to get set up, and you will earn money for your school every time you shop! To make it easier, we've included step-by-step instructions below:

#### Amazon



1. Go to [amazon.com](https://amazon.com) and create an account. If you already have one, go to step 2.
2. From your web browser: Go to [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) and sign in with your Amazon account information.
3. From your Amazon Shopping app on your phone: Tap "AmazonSmile" within the Settings or Programs & Features menu.
4. On your first visit to AmazonSmile, you will be prompted to select a charitable organization to receive donations from your future eligible AmazonSmile purchases. Select Thurston Parent Teacher Organization.
5. Every purchase you make after that will send a percentage to Thurston. This is a great way for out-of-town relatives and friends to contribute as well.

*Note: Amazon should remember your selected charity whenever you shop at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) or with AmazonSmile activated in the Amazon Shopping app, but be sure to check that you are using [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) from your web browser OR that you have AmazonSmile turned on in the mobile app before checking out.*

#### Kroger



1. Get a Kroger Plus Card at the customer service desk or use the one you already have.
2. To start earning Kroger's Community Rewards program, you need to create an account at [kroger.com](https://kroger.com). Go to Create an Account and type in your name and Kroger Plus card number. If you already have a digital account, please ensure you have a Plus Card linked to your account.
3. Click on My Account and scroll to the bottom where it says Community Rewards.
4. Click Enroll and fill out the required information.

5. You will now be able to search for and select the organization you want to link your card with. Search for Thurston PTO (organization number VY999) and click Enroll.
6. Scan your Kroger Plus card whenever you check out. Kroger often offers special discounts to cardholders in addition to the community rewards program.

*Note: Kroger requires everyone to re-enroll after April 30th!*

### **Busch's**



1. To enroll in Cash for Education, you must have a MyWay account. If you are already a Busch's member, log in to your MyWay account through [buschs.com/MyWay](https://buschs.com/MyWay) and click the Cash for Education icon.
2. Choose Thurston PTO from the list of organizations (for all quarters) and every purchase you make will earn rewards.
3. Select up to four organizations that you would like to support for each quarter using the drop down menu. Purchases will be allocated equally between your chosen organizations.
4. Participants will be required to re-enroll on an annual basis. You will receive an email reminder before the next year's enrollment begins.
5. Just be sure to use your MyWay card or phone number at checkout.
6. You must have a valid email address and opt in to receive emails to participate in this program. You can check this information under My Account > Account Holder when logged into MyWay.
7. Busch's will sometimes update accounts after one year, so check the Community tab periodically to make sure Thurston is still receiving your rewards.

You can learn more about the Cash for Education program and sign up here at [www.buschs.com/community](https://www.buschs.com/community)

### **Shutterfly**



If you order your photos, calendars, cards, or gifts from Shutterfly or their partners, they will give 13% commission to Thurston. This is another easy way friends and family can show support. Just enter the site from the Thurston storefront at [thurstonpto.shutterflystorefront.com](https://thurstonpto.shutterflystorefront.com) and we'll receive credit for every purchase.



- ✓ **SHOP**
- ✓ **DONATE**
- ✓ **SUPPORT**

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**2280 S. Industrial Hwy. ♦ [a2ptothriftshop.org](http://a2ptothriftshop.org)**

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*Supporting Ann Arbor Public Schools and its Students Since 1993*

*Here's what our community has to say about us . . .*

*"As a fundraising chair at my children's school, I always enjoyed finding ways to package up donated goods for our Silent Auction. I always found what I needed at the **Ann Arbor PTO Thrift Shop** and donated back what we didn't sell!" ~Michelle M.*

*"One of my favorite fundraising activities was when we got tokens for schools collecting them to win. Love to support the **Ann Arbor PTO Thrift Shop** and AAPS!" ~Samina D.*

*"As a working parent, my kids wouldn't have been able to participate in after-school activities or tutoring without the donations from the **Ann Arbor PTO Thrift Shop** that helped provide the late buses!" ~Brad B.*

*"I love knowing my children's stuff can be loved by another when I donate to the **Ann Arbor PTO Thrift Shop**. I feel like a contributing part of the community and it keeps things out of landfills!" ~Eddie K.*



*Visit our website or FaceBook page for Current Hours*



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