

## 05-20-24 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 20, 2024 at 2:00 PM

**Thurston  
Elementary  
Parent  
Teacher  
Organization**

**Heron  
Happenings**

**May 20, 2024**



### Upcoming Events

**May 20:** Young Five/Kindergarten Tour #3, 2:30 - 3:00p.m.

**May 20:** 5th Grade *Treasure Island* Performance, 6:00 - 7:00p.m. in the MPR

**May 20:** AAPS Board of Education meeting, 7:00p.m. at Pioneer High School

**May 27:** No School (Memorial Day)

**May 31:** Field Day

### AAPS Budget Crisis Update

We encourage all parents to review the [2024-25 Proposed Comprehensive Budget Plan](#) presented at the May 15th Board of Education meeting. The plan involves laying off 141 AAPS employees (including 94 teachers), eliminating World Language instruction at the elementary level, and making significant changes and reductions to PLTW and "Specials" instruction. **The Board of Education will hold a special meeting today (5/20) at 7 p.m. at Pioneer High School to address this comprehensive budget plan.**

Thurston parent Jennifer Oldham has been following the Board of Education meetings closely. She's put together a very helpful interpretation of one of the more confusing slides from the budget plan - the slide that deals with the changes to PLTW and "Specials". The PTO was not involved in creating this document but would like to share Jennifer's perspective here: [Proposed Budget Changes Impacts on Specials](#)

You can email the Board of Education at [boardofed@a2schools.org](mailto:boardofed@a2schools.org). More details on the [AAPS Board of Education website](#).



ANN ARBOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
LEAD. CARE. INSPIRE.

Ann Arbor Public Schools  
2023-24 Board of Education

 <div>Susan Baskett</div>	 <div>Krystle DuPree</div>	 <div>Jeff Gaynor</div>	 <div>Rima Mohammad</div>
 <div>Ernesto Querijero</div>	 <div>Susan Ward Schmidt</div>	 <div>Torchio Feaster</div>	 <div>Jazz Parks Interim Superintendent of Schools</div>

**[Congratulations Thurston Math Club!](#)**



The Thurston Math Club is celebrating another successful year in which all the kids had fun doing challenging math problems with friends! They are also celebrating four award winners from this year's [Math Kangaroo competition](#). Math Kangaroo recognizes kids who have scores in the top 20 for the nation and top 3 for the state. This year's award-winning Thurston students are:

**Jacey Zuo** (4th grade) - 18th place score for the USA

**Yonatan Grajower** (3rd grade) - 16th place score for the USA

**Yue [Enoch] Li** (2nd grade) - 15th place score for the USA

**Moyi Gui** (2nd grade) - 7th place score for the USA and 2nd place score for the state of Michigan

For more information or to join the Thurston Math Club, email [thurstonmathclub@gmail.com](mailto:thurstonmathclub@gmail.com).

**Summer Garden Beds Available at Thurston!**



There are 13 raised beds in the Thurston community garden for families to rent for \$10 each, with all proceeds going to the Thurston PTO. Gardening can begin on the last day of school with plots available to anyone in the community. There is no school affiliation required, so please feel free to pass this information along to friends and neighbors who may be interested. The garden plots are yours to be creative with! In the past families have grown a variety of fruits, vegetables and flowers to enjoy throughout the summer. In the late fall, all garden beds must be cleaned out and composted in preparation for colder weather. With the summer being such a busy time, families have created a shared watering schedule to make tending to your plot a little easier. If you're interested in a plot for the summer or have questions, please feel free to [email Thurston Garden Captain Kelly Gilbert](#).

**Spring Lunch Recess Volunteer Sign Up**



# RECESS VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



We are looking for volunteers for the spring! You can volunteer to come in any individual school day or a recurring day. This is a great opportunity to get outside and get involved at school! We are looking for noon-hour (lunch recess) volunteers who can help staff monitor children on the playground at recess. Recess at Thurston goes from approximately 11:12-12:48, you may come for part of it or all of it.

You can sign up on the [Spring Volunteer Sign up Sheet](#). Use the top of the sheet to sign up for a recurring shift or scroll down to sign up for just one or two days. Please include your shift choice next to your name on the form.

Recess starts at 11:12 and goes until 12:48. There are 3 shift options.

Shift 0: the whole recess period

Shift 1: 11:00-12:30

Shift 2: 11:20-1:00

If you have trouble with the form, please email [pto.thurstonelementary@gmail.com](mailto:pto.thurstonelementary@gmail.com). We greatly appreciate your support!

When you arrive for your scheduled volunteer shift, please check in at the school office with your ID. Thank you so much for helping out at the school and have a great day!

**Thurston Student Directory**



Need to contact a Thurston parent or student? Check out the updated [2023-2024 Thurston student directory](#). 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](#).

---

**Please sign up with our local grocery stores to [raise money for Thurston while you shop!](#)**

**Have a question or suggestion? The PTO wants to hear from you!**

**Contacts:**

[Maureen McCoy](#) (PTO President)

[Sathish Arcot & Ying-Chieh Wang](#) (PTO Treasurers)

[Holly Giesman Rosero](#) (PTO Newsletter)

**You can also [visit our website](#) or [Facebook page](#)**

**Newsletter submissions due by Saturday, 5pm to: [newsletter.thurstonpto@gmail.com](mailto: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](#)

SchoolMessenger is a notification service used by the nation's leading school systems to connect with parents, students and staff through voice, SMS text, email, and social media.