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**04-15-24 Thurston PTO Newsletter**

1 message

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

Mon, Apr 15, 2024 at 2:00 PM

## Thurston Elementary Parent Teacher Organization

### Heron Happenings

**April 15, 2024**

#### Upcoming Events

- April 15:** Ann Arbor Public Schools (AAPS) Virtual Townhall Meeting on Budget Crisis, 6:30 - 7:30p.m. ([Join Webinar](#))
- April 16:** AAPS In-person Community Input Meeting on Budget Crisis, 6:30p.m. at Huron High School ([More Information](#))
- April 18:** AAPS In-person Community Input Meeting on Budget Crisis, 6:30p.m. at Skyline High School ([More Information](#))
- April 19:** Spirit Day - Anything But a Backpack Day!
- April 23:** Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) Meeting, 6:00 - 7:00p.m. at Thurston (**NOTE: Date Change**)
- April 26:** Read-a-Thon, 3:10 - 3:30p.m. at Thurston (details below)
- April 28:** Earth Day Outdoor Work Day at Thurston (details below)

#### PTO Meeting Rescheduled

Our next Thurston Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) meeting was originally scheduled for tomorrow; however, in light of the recently-announced Ann Arbor Public Schools Community Input Meetings regarding the district's budget crisis, we will be moving our PTO meeting to next Tuesday April 23rd. This way, parents and staff will be free to attend the AAPS meeting at Huron High School this Tuesday at 6:30p.m.

#### International Night Volunteers



Spring is here, and Thurston families are getting excited for our annual International Night - Thurston's premier cultural event of the year - the evening of May 3rd! It takes a lot of people to set up and run this event, and we are seeking volunteers. [Sign up to volunteer](#), and help us make this International Night 2024 another great success!

### Earth Day Volunteering

Volunteer with the Thurston Girl Scouts families to help us keep our school's outdoor areas looking great! Sign up for our [Volunteer Work Day](#)!



# Earth Day Outdoor Work Day at Thurston

Organized by the Girl Scout Families at  
Thurston

## WHAT WE WILL DO:

Stain the Picnic Tables  
around Thurston

Pick up trash and debris  
on Thurston's grounds

Pull weeds in the Rain  
Gardens

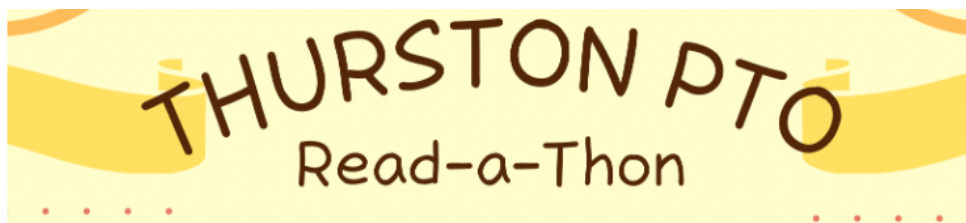
Re-paint the  
buddy benches

## April 28th

Sign up for a volunteer shift from 10-12 or  
12-2



## Raise money for Thurston while you read!



**Join us on April 26 from 3:10-3:30 for a community-wide Read-a-Thon Fundraiser at Thurston.** The Thurston PTO wants to support our young readers, and we need to raise money to pay for Teacher Appreciation Week (Coffee Truck and Catered Lunch), Field Trip Buses, 5th Grade End of Year Activities, Field Day, and the remaining Teacher Grants. Please bring your own book and blanket or chair to sit on. Each grade and class will have an assigned area outside to gather and read. There is no required donation, and everyone is welcome to join. **We are requesting a \$10-\$20 donation per family, with a goal of raising \$4,000.** Any donation, of any amount, is greatly appreciated and helps make a difference for the AMAZING Teachers and Students at Thurston! We have opted to simplify and not use a fundraising platform to save time and remove platform fees.

Here are the ways you can make your donation:

- cash or check (made out to Thurston PTO) in a marked envelope to the school office with your child
- **PayPal** (no PayPal account is required, you can use a credit/debit card)
- Zelle (using the email address [thurstonptotreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:thurstonptotreasurer@gmail.com) as the recipient)

## Seeking New Parent Teacher Organization Board Members



Many of our Thurston Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) Board members are coming to the end of their 2-year terms, and it is time to nominate a new group of leaders! This is a great opportunity to get involved at Thurston and get to know the amazing community of parents, teachers, and administrators at the school. The PTO is made up of parent volunteers, who work together with Thurston teachers and administration staff to organize fun and educational events, raise much-needed funds for school programs and clubs, support teachers with grants for special projects and supplies, and much more! We need you - the parents and caregivers - to share your time and expertise! Learn more about open positions on the board and express your interest on this [PTO Board Officer Interest Form](#).

### Board Openings:

- **President**
- **Vice President**
- **Secretary**
- **Co-Treasurer**
- **Communications Chair**
- **PTO Council Representative**
- **Health, Wellness & Safety Chair**
- **Member at Large**
- **Fundraising Chair**

**Want to find out more about what's involved? Please join us at the next PTO meeting - Tuesday April 23rd at 6pm in the Thurston Library!** You will have a chance to connect with the parents currently serving on the board and ask questions! You can also contact the PTO President at [pto.thurstonelementary@gmail.com](mailto:pto.thurstonelementary@gmail.com)

### Spring Lunch Recess Volunteer Sign Up



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!

### Do you want After Care at Thurston?



The Ann Arbor Public Schools Community Education and Recreation (Rec & Ed) is conducting an [After Care Interest Survey](#) to determine the level of interest in an After Care program at Thurston. Rec & Ed has been working hard to hire staff and re-open more Before/After care sites, and they aim to add at least one new site in Fall 2024. To run this program, at least 30 students per day must be registered. **If you are interested in After Care, please fill out this form by April 25, 2024.** Rec & Ed will email you an update the week of May 13th.

### 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](#).

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**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)**

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