

THORNLEA S.S. SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWS

VOLUME 2 ISSUE 1

OCTOBER 13, 2023

Welcome to the first edition of the Thornlea S.S. School Council newsletter for 2023-24!

The School Council is made up of Thornlea parents who are dedicated to fostering a stimulating and nurturing school environment for students. Working in partnership with teachers, administrators and families, we provide advice on school matters to ensure all students have access to enriching learning and growth experiences and a nurturing and supportive community. Our monthly newsletter keeps families up to date on important school information and resources. All parents are welcome to attend council meetings and share ideas to support our work.

If you have questions about Council or want to get involved, please feel free to contact us at thornlea.ss@sc.yrdsb.ca.
-- Aroon B. and Myra C., co-chairs, School Council

Important dates

Oct. 17

School Council meeting, 7 p.m.:
virtual - [click here to join](#)

Oct. 18

Photo retake day

Oct. 18-19

Ontario College Fair

Oct. 20

PA Day

Oct. 21-22

Ontario Universities' Fair

Oct. 26

Parent/Guardian
Teacher Interviews

School Clubs and Teams

Students at Thornlea can participate in a diverse range of clubs and teams. Offering opportunities to build knowledge and skills and connect with peers, they help students make the most of their high school education.

Here is a partial list of active Thornlea clubs and teams. You can find more complete information in the school's E-Bulletins and Instagram page.

- Amnesty Club
- Announcements Team
- Arts Equity Diversity Council
- Athletic Council
- Band
- Chemistry Club
- Communications Club
- Creative Writing
- Cross Country
- Debate Club
- DECA
- Drama Club
- Doctors of Tomorrow
- French Club
- Gender Sexuality Alliance
- Girls Basketball
- Girls Rugby
- Golf
- Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA)
- Luminary Awards Planning Team
- Multi Media Club
- Peer Buddies
- Presidents' Club
- Prom Committee
- Robotics
- Rugby
- Junior Boys Volleyball
- Senior Boys Soccer
- Soccer
- Thornlea Environmental Alliance
- Thornlea Robotics Club
- Thornlea Newspaper Club
- Thornlea Student Association Club
- Thornlea Wellness Initiative Council (TWIC)
- Volleyball



Thornlea School Council 2023-24

Executive Committee

Aroon B., co-chair
Myra C., co-chair
Sharon A., communications
Jennifer F., treasurer
Diana L., secretary

Members at Large

LeeAnn C.
Jenn D.
Peter D.
Jenn I.
Eileen M.
Jane P.
Amir S.
Mandy S.
Angela Y.
Grace Y.

Contact us:
thornlea.ss@sc.yrdsb.ca

FlipGive

You can support Thornlea School Council's initiatives by making purchases at your favorite online stores via FlipGive's website, or buying gift cards via FlipGive's Shop App to pay for your in-store purchases. Click [here](#) to join!

Resources

- [Daily announcements website](#)
- [School Council Newsletter back issues](#)
- [School Council meeting agendas and minutes](#)

Supporting students with exceptionalities



Thornlea S.S. is committed to providing a safe and inclusive learning environment for all students, including those with special needs.

The School Council, which consists of parents seeking to support our children's well-being and success at Thornlea, understands that every student is unique and may require different types of support. Therefore, last year we established a **Special Education Subcommittee** that will work with teachers, administrators and families to ensure that all students with exceptionalities receive the supports and accommodations they need to thrive in both the classroom and extracurricular activities.

We believe that by collaborating with families and the school team, we can better understand how to help students with exceptionalities excel and succeed.

To help us best serve Thornlea students with special needs, we value input from school families. You are welcome to share your experiences with accessing special education support by contacting us: thornlea.ss@sc.yrdsb.ca. Thank you for your ongoing support and partnership in ensuring the success of all students at Thornlea.

Life at Thornlea S.S.



Protecting and including students with food allergies

In 2015, 18-year-old Andrea Mariano of Thornhill was in her second day of school at Queen's University. After class, the psychology major went to get a smoothie. Within seconds of taking her first sips, she felt her throat closing up. She began gasping for air and asking for help.

The counter person called 911 and tried to help. But Andrea lost consciousness and, by the time paramedics arrived, had stopped breathing. Two days later, her parents bid goodbye to their child forever. She'd suffered irreversible brain damage due to an allergic reaction to something in her drink.

Andrea was severely allergic to dairy and peanuts. She had been taught as a young child to always inform people of her allergies. Yet somehow, on that day, a safety measure was missed, resulting in her fatal anaphylactic reaction.

According to Food Allergy Canada, More than three million Canadians have a food allergy, including almost 600,000 under age 18. To most people, having an allergy might have something to do with pollen, bees, cats or dogs. They can go to their pharmacy or just not have a cat. But food is not something you can avoid, and navigating food allergies can be tricky in social situations.

Let's make sure we foster a safe, inclusive learning environment at Thornlea where we have awareness of food allergies, and safely include all students in everyday school activities.

UC Davis Health recommends six tips to help people with food allergies:

1. Ask questions.
2. Avoid sharing food with someone who has known food allergies.
3. Be a label reader.
4. Wash your hands.
5. Clearly disclose and label allergens.
6. Have a mini action plan in place.

<https://health.ucdavis.edu/news/headlines/6-tips-to-help-a-friend-with-food-allergies-/2022/05>