



New wall mural in the Gym hallway  
Designed by Mr. Belchevski of the Technology Dept.

## THE SCHOOL COUNCIL THANKS PARENTS AND GUARDIANS

The School Council would like to thank all parents and guardians who participated in the Parent/Guardian Survey. A total of 238 responses were received. Members of the School Council will convene and discuss survey results and use them as a guide in spearheading new initiatives for the rest of the school year.

Other Council initiatives currently in progress include the conversion of Photography rooms to Special Effects Green Room, the Parents Reaching Out (PRO) Grant application, and organizing the Staff Appreciation event.

### Thornlea School Council

#### **Executive Members**

Myra C. (Co-chair)

Eva S. (Co-chair)

Diana L. (Communications)

Sharon A. (Extracurricular)

Claudia M. (Secretary)

Jim Z. (Treasurer)

#### **Contact Us**

[thornlea.ss@sc.yrdsb.ca](mailto:thornlea.ss@sc.yrdsb.ca)

## NOVEMBER 21 SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Our last School Council meeting of 2022 took place in person at the Thornlea school library and online via Microsoft Teams.

Some highlights of the meeting are:

Mr. Foti confirmed that there will be exams in January and the school library will provide tips and strategies to students for preparing and writing exams.

Ms. Robyn Papoff, our guest speaker from George Brown College, gave a very informative presentation on post-secondary scholarships, grants, awards, loans, and OSAP.

Mr. Ram, our Teacher Representative, informed us that mid-term marks for Grade 12 students were reported to OUAC.

Our Student Representatives from TSAC and TWIC were glad to report that the Homecoming Dance was a success with 400 attendees - the biggest dance event ever at Thornlea! TWIC will host a World Cup tournament, while TSAC will organize a Winter Café in December.

For more information, past meeting agendas and minutes are published here when they are approved by the Council.

We look forward to seeing you at our next School Council meeting on *Tuesday, February 21, 2023 at 7pm!*



## TWIC NEEDS YOUR INPUT

The Thornlea Wellness Initiative Council (TWIC) needs parents and guardians' input on *setting wellness goals* for students. Please click [here](#) to complete a simple form which will take only a few minutes of your time. Thank you!

Deadline: *December 15, 2022*

## CYBER MONDAY SALE!

FlipGive

Love online shopping? You can support Thornlea by making your Cyber Monday, Christmas and Holiday gift purchases on your favorite online stores via FlipGive.

A percentage of your purchases will help support the various initiatives organized by the School Council.

Click [here](#) to join!

## RESOURCES

[University application info](#)

[College application info](#)

[Daily announcements website](#)

[Thornlea School Council News  
back issues](#)



## BELIEVE CLUB

We have a wonderful new opportunity for an extracurricular club at Thornlea focused on building leadership skills, and we welcome two students to help get it off the ground.

The Believe Initiative aims to help students become strong leaders, and support passion projects that can improve their community. It was started by Canadian Olympic athlete Sarah Wells, who won a silver medal in the 400-metre hurdles at the 2015 Pan American Games.

A Believe club can be started by two student co-leaders who will receive training from Believe in six areas: innovation and creativity, collaboration and teamwork, confidence, discipline, resilience, and leadership.

This training takes place through five 30-minute videos and five training manuals. The website has a helpful [FAQ](#) with more information.

These two students then teach this leadership programming to other club members, and support them in pursuing passion projects focused on a cause they care about, such as poverty, climate change or human rights. Believe provides all the resources, templates, tools and lesson materials needed to run a successful chapter.

At the end of the year, the club leaders host an “inspiration fair” at school to showcase members’ passion projects. In May, club members will have the opportunity to participate in a National Collective Inspiration Fair involving Believe clubs from high schools across Canada.

If your child is interested in leading the Believe club, please [email the School Council](#).



## THORNLEA SCHOOL COUNCIL 2022-2023 PARENT/GUARDIAN SURVEY HIGHLIGHTS



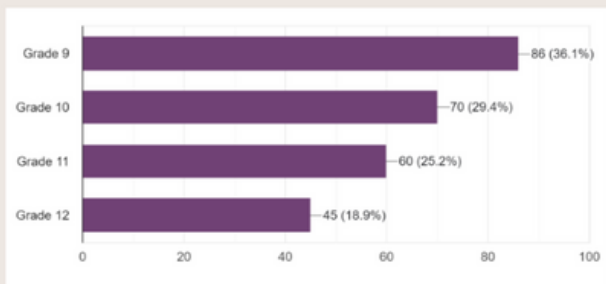
### Purpose of the survey

- Seek input from parents/guardians to help make this school year an even more inclusive and rewarding experience for both students and parents/guardians

### Themes covered in the survey

- Important areas that may require support from School or Council
- Diversity - languages spoken
- Availability of parents as volunteers
- Preferred communication channels and Council meeting format
- Fundraising initiatives

**In total, 238 survey responses were received, representing 261 students or 25% of the student population**

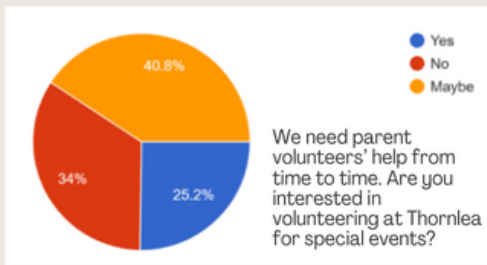


### Diversity

- 132 parents/guardians, together, can speak 28 different languages

### Volunteering

- 157 (66%) parents are or may be interested in volunteering
- Language translators: 54 (23%)
- Sharing their profession or career path with students: 78 (33%)

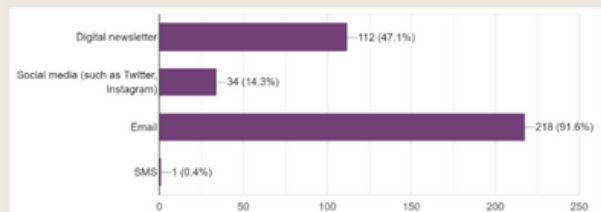


### Top 5 Important Areas (that may require support)

1. University and college application, career path
2. Exam preparation
3. Learning strategies (such as time management, note taking)
4. Extracurricular activities
5. Academic support for students (such as peer tutoring, after school help)

### Communication Channels

**Most parents/guardians prefer email and digital newsletter**



### Fundraising Initiatives

**204 (86%) parents expressed interest in supporting fundraising**

**In order of preference:**

1. Special fundraising event
2. Fresh from the Farm
3. Cheque donation to Thornlea
4. Merchandise purchase
5. FlipGive

### Council Meeting Format

- 39% of parents prefer to attend School Council meeting virtually
- 12% prefer to attend in person