

## Career Night is happening – volunteers needed!

Building on the success of last year's Career Night, the School Council is organizing another Career Night this spring.

The exact date is still to be determined.

Would you like to join in sharing with Thornlea students about your career journey and experiences?

We are looking for parents to join us as speakers in any industry or sector, such as:

- arts/media
- business
- science/health care
- engineering and manufacturing
- law
- trades
- education
- communications/marketing

By volunteering to speak, you'll help our students discover their potential career. Email us at [thornlea.sc@gmail.com](mailto:thornlea.sc@gmail.com).

### Important dates

**March 11-15**  
March Break  
(no school)

**March 29**  
Good Friday  
(no school)

**April 1**  
Easter (no school)

## School Council meeting update

At the Thornlea School Council meeting on Feb. 20, the following topics were discussed.

The **Thornlea Student Activity Council** will hold spirit week in March, and a Thunder Rally in April (dates TBD). TSAC will also hold its leadership election in April.

**Thornlea Wellness Initiative Council** (IG: @Thornleawellness) continues to hold Wellness Wednesdays every week, where students can do a 20-minute wellness activity in class. TWIC will hold a sports tournament in April, and a wellness fair and Thornstock later in the school year.

Principal Paolo Burzese reported the **boys basketball team** is going to the finals! The **Thornlea Concert Band** achieved gold at the Ontario Band Association's Provincial Band Festival.

The **course selection** deadline was Feb. 26. Timetables for the 2024-25 academic year are now being built.

Thornlea is trying to address the issue of vaping at school. Staff members have been visiting school bathrooms more regularly to clear out groups of students that are vaping. The board is now piloting a vaping detection program at schools. *continued on page 2*

### 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](mailto: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 and you'll earn a \$5 bonus the first time you shop! Use code 5FLXC7.

### Resources

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

# School Council meeting update - continued

The School Council is in the process of applying for a **Parents Reaching Out (PRO) Grant** from the YRDSB. These \$800 grants are designed to help school families lead projects that remove barriers that prevent them from engaging fully in their children’s learning.

The School Council members are looking to invite a speaker to the school who can speak to students and parents about how to cope with hate and racism.

On a related note, the school will welcome an upcoming visit by the Tour for Humanity bus, a mobile human rights education centre run by the Friends of Simon Wiesenthal Center for Holocaust Studies.

Plans are under way for Thornlea’s next **Career Night** (see article on page 1), which will be held in April or May of this year. Speakers can include parents of current students, current teachers and school alumni. If you are interested in giving a talk about your career, send an email to School Council at [Thornlea.sc@gmail.com](mailto:Thornlea.sc@gmail.com)

**Artificial intelligence** was raised as a concern by one parent, who said an AI detector determined her child had used AI on an assignment when they had not. The parent questioned the extent to which AI detectors are accurate and reliable, and the implications for students. Currently, the YRDSB has no designated AI detector in place for students’ homework assignments.

## Thornlea Guidance Department

Mr. Alkins, A - KAL

Ms. TSE, SHER - WANG

Ms. Rai, KAM - SHEN

Ms. Ceausu, WAT - Z

## Life at Thornlea S.S.

Photos via Instagram: [@thornleayrdsb](https://www.instagram.com/thornleayrdsb)

