



THORNTON TOWNSHIP  
HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 205

# BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

**NOVEMBER 8, 2023**

**Serving All or Portions of the Following Communities:**

Hazel Crest | Lansing | Markham | Phoenix Blue Island | Burnham | Calumet City  
| Posen | Riverdale | South Holland | | Dixmoor | Dolton | East Hazel Crest | Harvey  
Thornton

PHONE: 708-225-4000

[district205.net](http://district205.net)

[@ttdistrict205](https://twitter.com/ttdistrict205)

# OPEN SESSION

C A L L T O O R D E R



# **ROLL CALL**

# PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE





# COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

- A. Report from Curriculum Committee**
- B. Report from Finance Committee**
- C. Report from Policy Committee**
- D. Report from Discipline Committee**
- E. Report from Facilities Committee**

# **CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Approval of District 205 Bills: Dated October 12, 2023, through November 8, 2023**
- B. Personnel: Approval of Resignations, Leave of Absence, New Hires & Terminations dated November 8, 2023**
- C. Ratification(s):**
  - i. Approval of the Special Olympics Soccer Team, Thornton Township High School Overnight Trip, November 4-5, 2023, Schaumburg, Illinois**



# **CONSENT AGENDA**

## **C. Ratification(s):**

**ii. Approval of the Thornridge High School College & Career Exploration Experiences, Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana, November 9, 2023**

**iii. Approval of the Thornridge Varsity Boys Basketball Team to participate in the Orion Thanksgiving Tournament, Orion, Illinois, November 24-25, 2023, and the Bosco Institute at the Dean & Barbara White Center, Merrillville, Indiana, December 9, 2023**

# PUBLIC HEARING

**Conduct of public hearing concerning the intent to issue up to \$12,200,000 working cash fund bonds for the purpose of increasing the working cash fund of the District**



# PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

*We now open the Public Participation section of our agenda. At this time, members of the community are invited to address the Board. We ask that you state your name and town, limit your total time to two minutes, and talk only about items on the current Board Agenda.*

*In addition, if your comments are of a critical nature about specific people, the Board requests that you present your comments during the personnel portion of the “executive session.”*

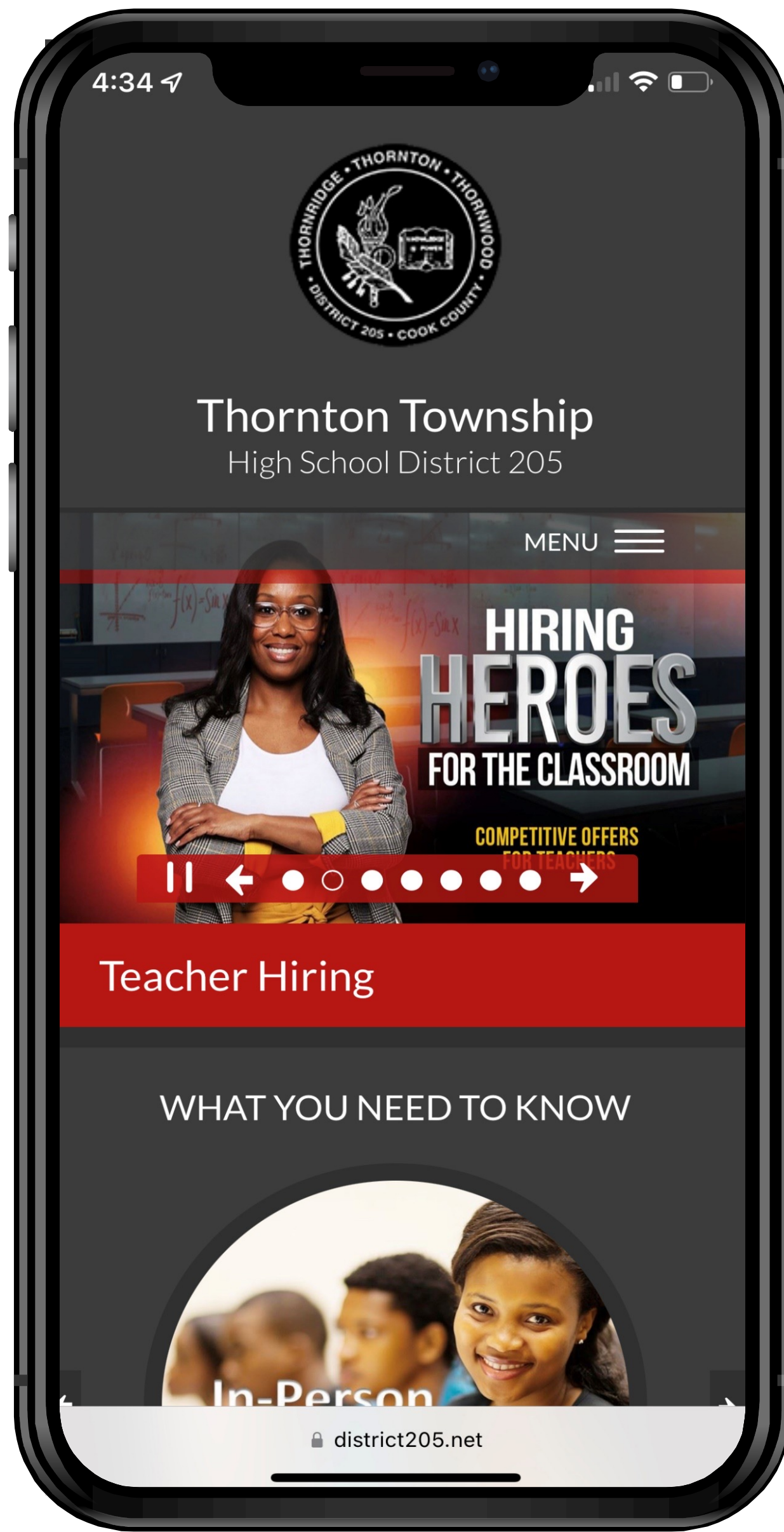
*Your name will not be called if you do not sign in and list a topic or the topic is not on the current Board agenda or if public participation has begun.*

# FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT (FOIA)

DR. DOSS







THORNTON TOWNSHIP  
HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 205

# COMMUNICATIONS

N E W S F R O M T H E S C H O O L S

MR. FICKES





**DR. NATHANIEL CUNNINGHAM, JR.**

**District 205  
Superintendent**

# CELEBRATING **NATIONAL SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS DAY**

**November 15, 2023**

**“LEARN TOGETHER,  
LEAD TOGETHER”**

## **DISTRICT 205 BOARD MEMBERS**



**MS. NINA GRAHAM**

**Board President**



**MRS. ALMETTA VASSER-MOODY**

**Board  
Vice President**



**DR. KARA ELLEN DAVIS**

**Board  
Secretary**



**MR. STANLEY BROWN**

**Board  
Member**



**MRS. BERNADETTE LAWRENCE**

**Board  
Member**



**MR. RAY BANKS**

**Board  
Member**



**MR. STAFFORD OWENS**

**Board  
Member**

**Thank you to our incredible school board members for their dedication and commitment to shaping the future of education. Your leadership inspires us all to strive for excellence and create a brighter tomorrow.**



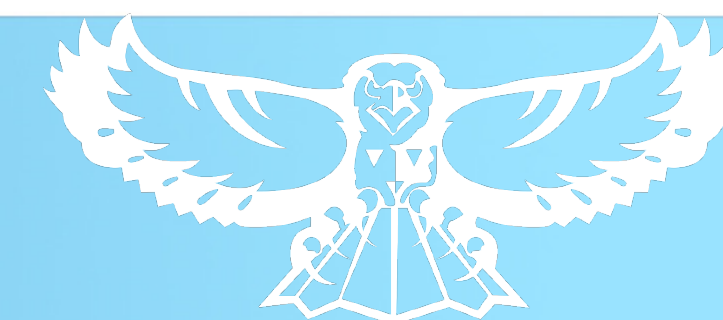
# THORNBRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL

## H o m e c o m i n g   D a n c e

Special thanks to Student Council, activity director Ms. Ousley, and assistant activity director Ms. Gibson for hosting such a great dance!



**THORNTON TOWNSHIP**  
HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 205





# *Thornridge's Resilience & Wellness Update*

- The two committees joined together to have staff social events after testing to help build morale.
- October 25 was an Ice Cream Social
- October 26 was Pop in for Popcorn
- Over 70 staff members attended each event



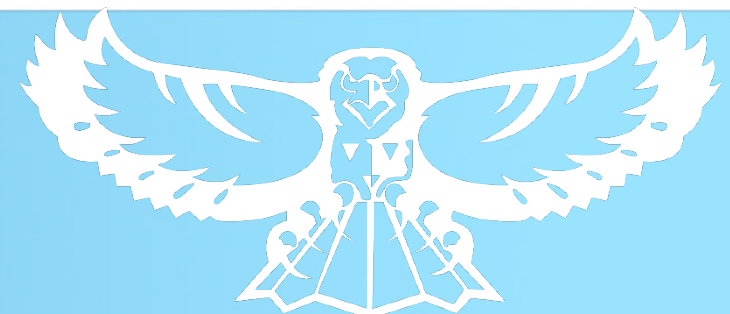


# THORNBRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL

## Health Screening



- November 1 TR held a wellness screening / flu shot event
- 65 people benefitted from this event
- Special thanks to Socorra Prado and Heidi Wickland for arranging the event and nourishment.

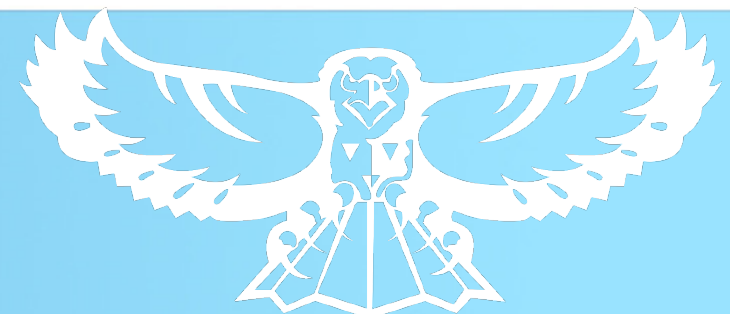
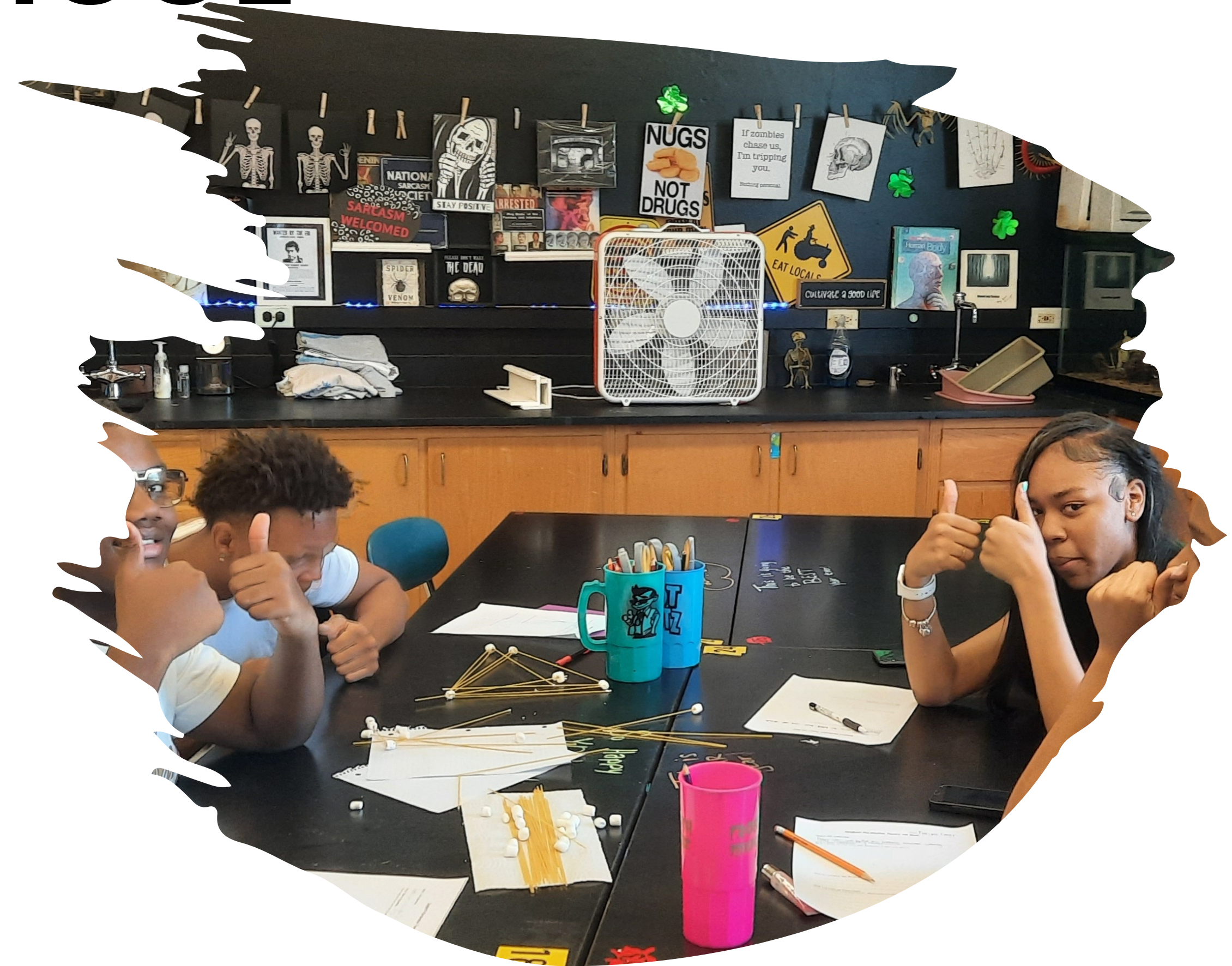




# THORNBRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL

## Science Department

- The Department headed by Dr. Kimberly Hodges, has implemented a testing remediation program for Biology, Chemistry, and Physics students.
- The 3-day program ensures a thorough understanding of the subject matter and to address any gaps in knowledge or skills.
- The goal of remediation is to help students achieve mastery of the material, promoting their academic success and confidence in their abilities.





# THORNBRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL

## B a n d & D r u m L i n e



THORNTON TOWNSHIP  
HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 205

Shoutout to the director and coaches who has worked diligently with the musicians and jammers.  
This year we were able to host our very first District 205 Fall Classic.



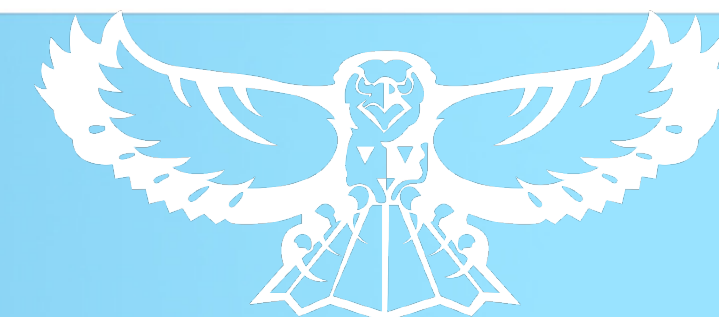
Sam Pilnick - Director  
Ryan Wells-Percussion  
Ricardo Hard – Wood Wind  
Kevin Feyzi – Bass  
Kristen Boyd- Auxiliary Coach  
Chey Nichalon – Assistant  
Coach



PHONE: 708-225-4000

district205.net

@ttdistrict205



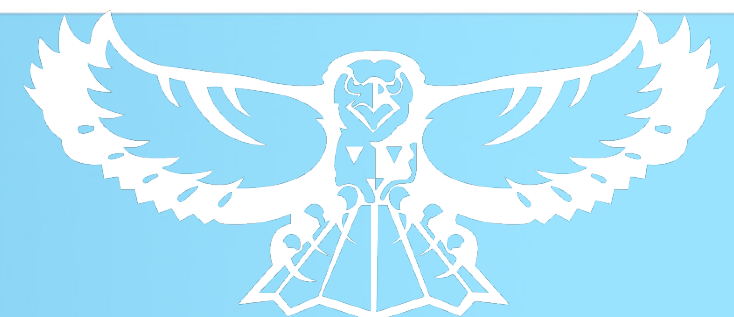


# THORNTRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL

Volley for a Cure



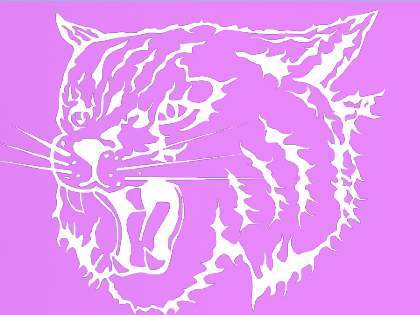
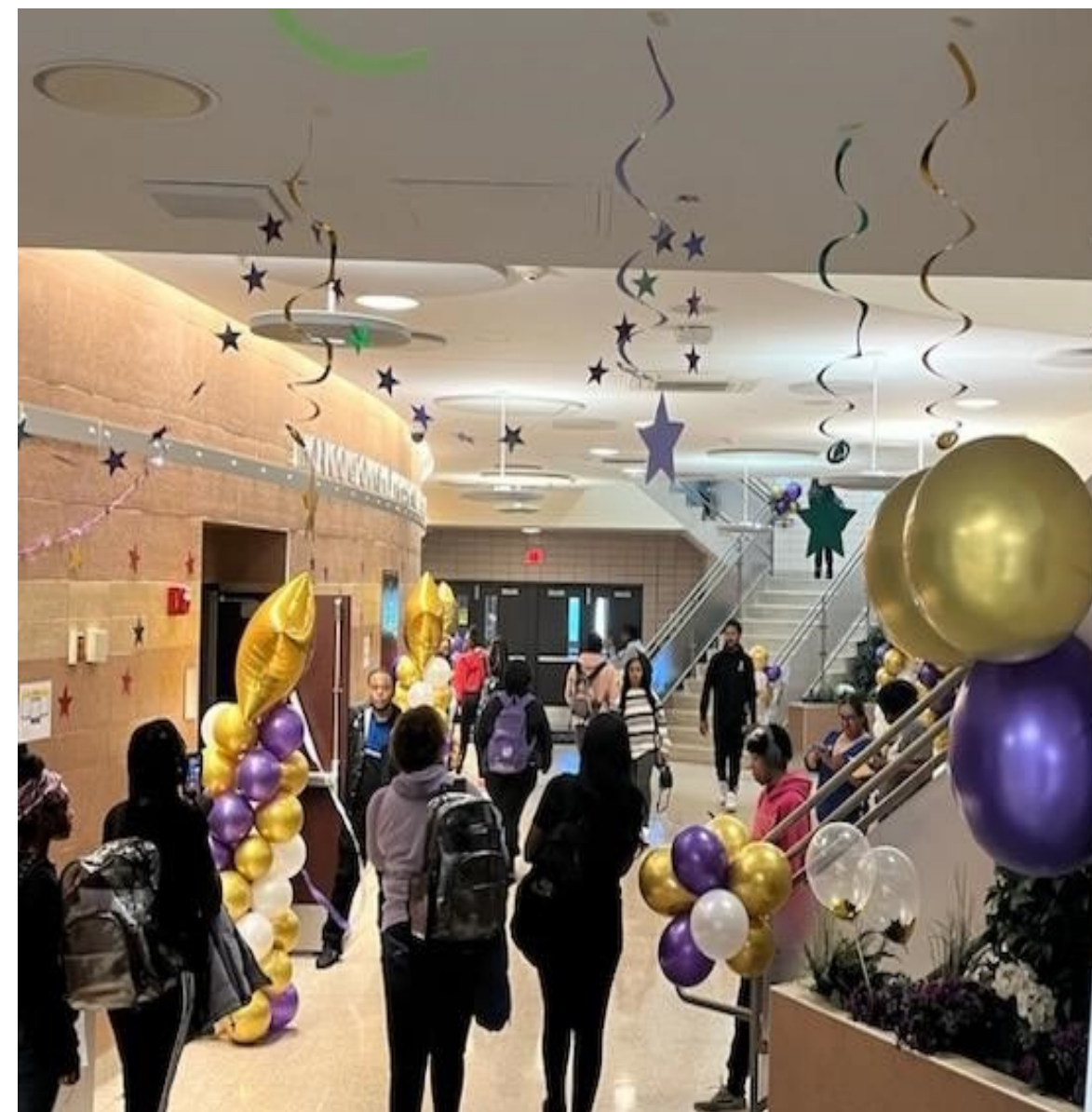
THORNTON TOWNSHIP  
HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 205





Wildcat staff and students get pumped up for digital PSAT exams! Teachers and students participated in "the slime challenge." Prizes were given to students who were able to answer questions regarding the PSAT Exams.

FUN, FUN, FUN!







# Thornwood IB Induction Ceremony

October 24, 2023



# THORNWOOD NHS

## National Honor Society Students enjoy a field trip to Camp Manitoqua





# Special Olympics Floor Hockey



**Played Oak Lawn on Oct. 30th. Tied 5-5.  
The team had a great time with 5 new participants this year.**



# HANDS ACROSS HARVEY

Held October 14, 2023 at Lord of Mercy Church in Harvey





# 3E EXPO

Held October 25, 2023 at the Tinley Park Convention Center



PHONE: 708-225-4000

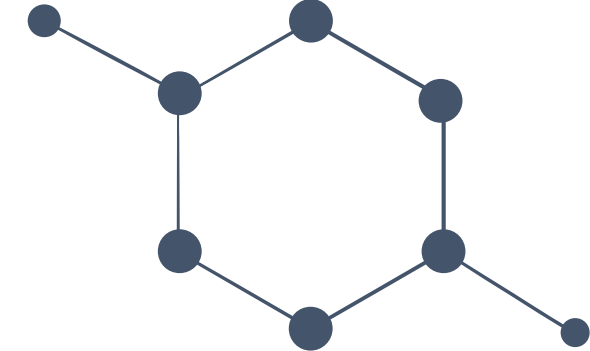
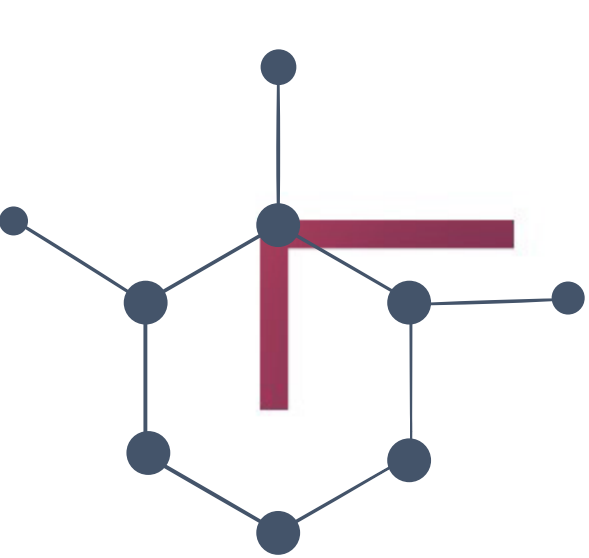
[district205.net](http://district205.net)

[@ttdistrict205](https://twitter.com/ttdistrict205)

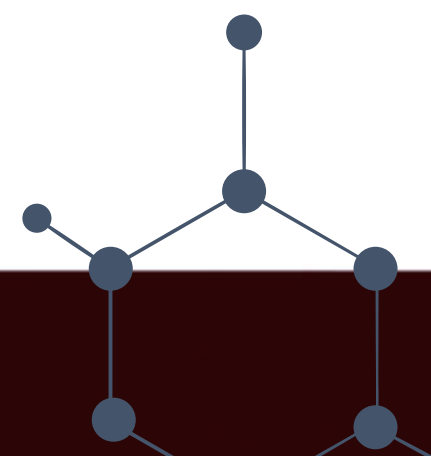
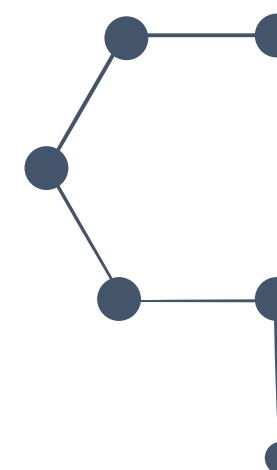


# **NEW BUSINESS**

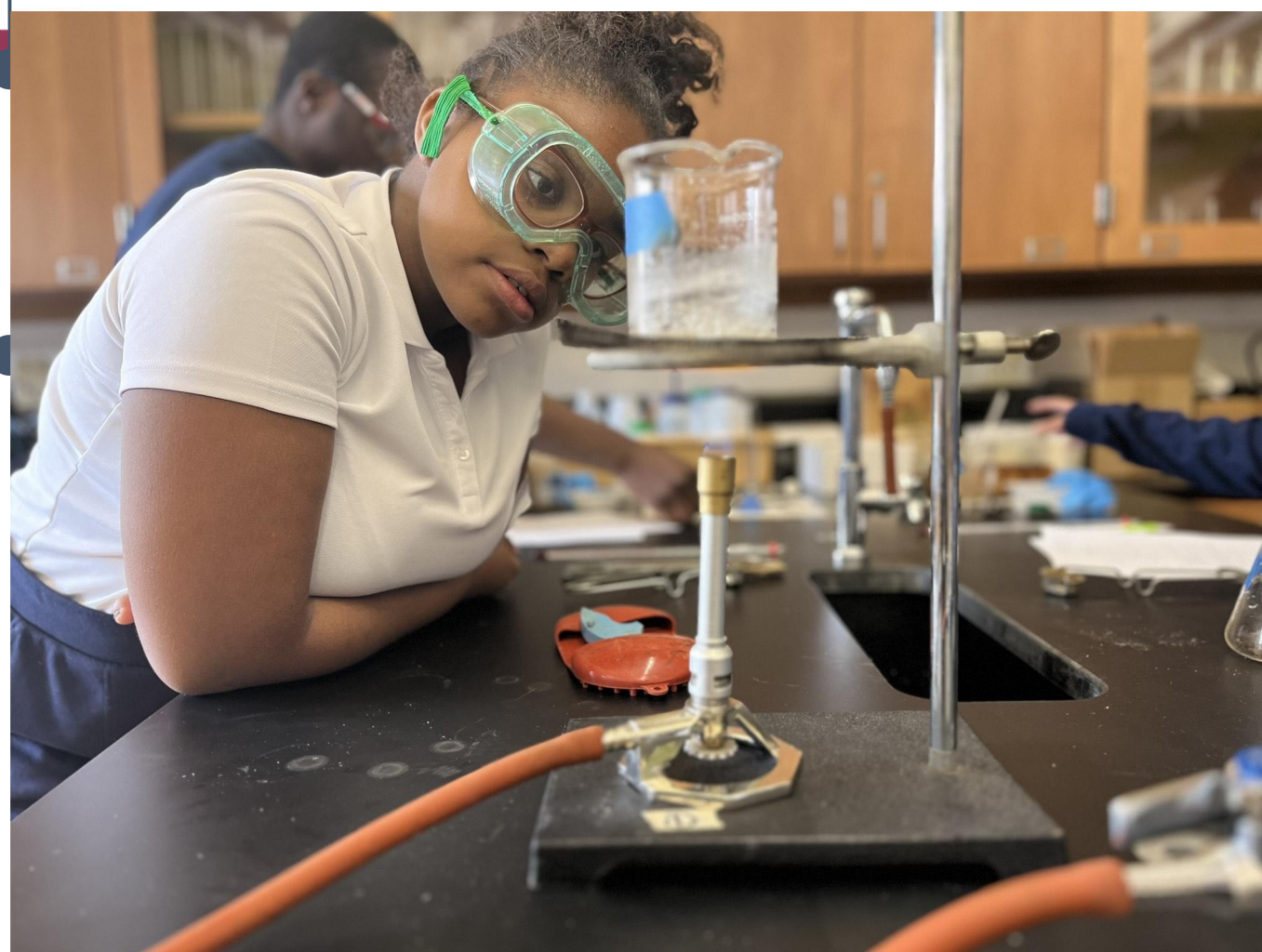
**A. 2023 Thornton IB Chemistry/McKinley Middle School Lab  
Presentation – Mr. Fickes**



# 2023 Thornwood IB Chemistry/Mckinley Middle School Lab





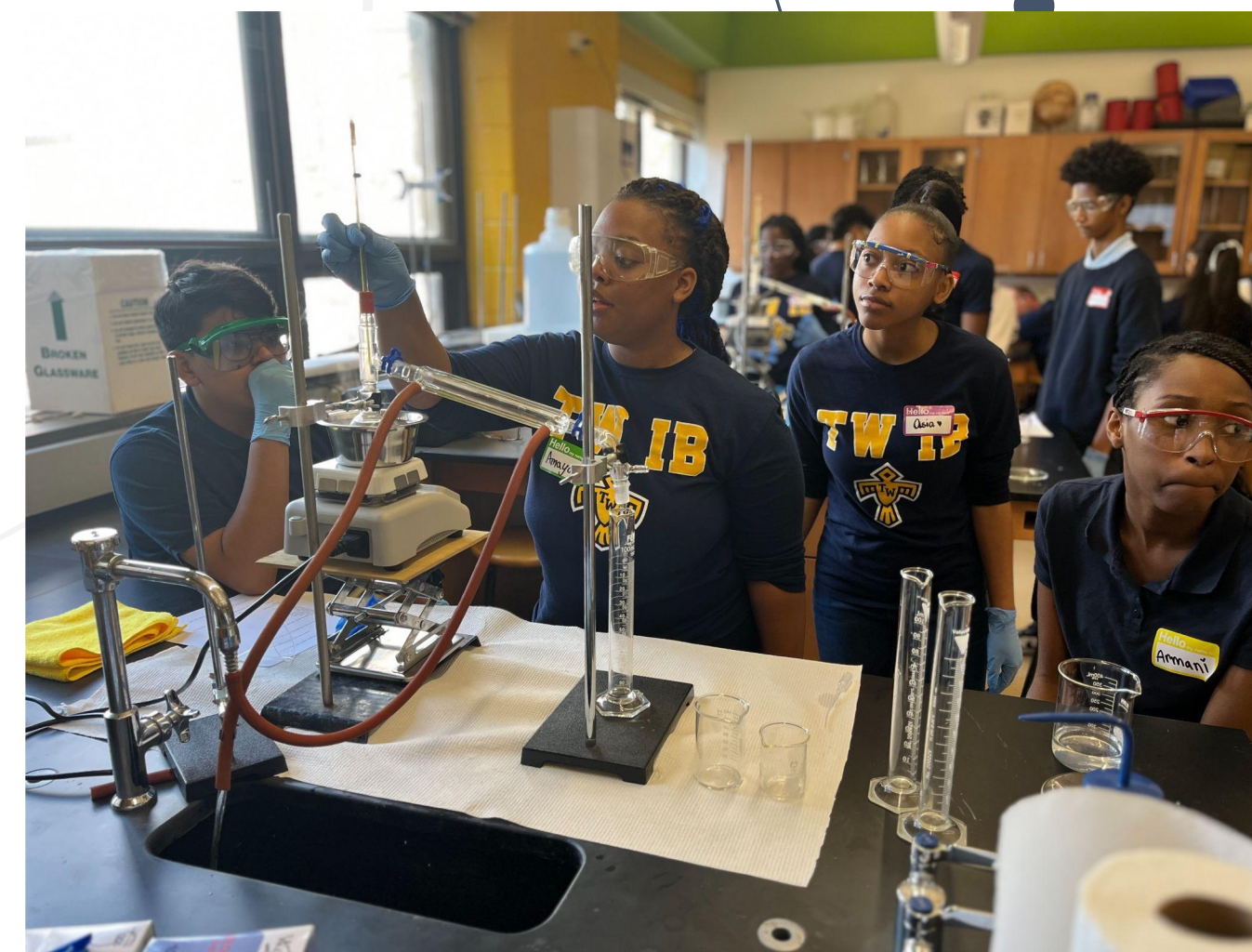


### Separation Lab with the IB Juniors

- Separating a mixture of water, salt, sand, iron filings
- Using separation methods such as filtration and evaporation.

“...It felt like a thrilling moment to educate someone who will possibly be in your same position, a few years from now.”  
- Oluwanifemi Ajayi

“It was a full-circle moment for me because I came to the lab when I went to McKinley. It was a nice feeling to be on the other side helping my assigned student.” -Nilano Lear



### Simple Distillation Lab with the IB Seniors

- Separation by the difference of boiling points
- Separating water and ethanol boiling off the ethanol to be condensed, leaving the water by itself
- Testing to see if the ethanol is pure by lighting it



# **NEW BUSINESS**

## **B. Thornwood Girls Cross Country Team Presentation – Mr. Fickes**



# **NEW BUSINESS**

## **C. Presentation of A Few Good M.E.N., Thornwood – Mr. Blair**





# A Few Good M.E.N.


A male mentoring group





# Mission


To teach, educate, build confidence, and mold young men on the path towards being independent, productive, citizens of their community.







# A Few Good M.E.N. Goals

- Character Development
  - Academic Excellence
  - Community Service
  - Brotherhood
- 





# Mentoring Sponsors

- **Ken West**
  - **Michael Blair**
  - **Danny Gray**
  - **Outstanding Alumni Support**
- 





## Black Male Panel Discussion





# Annual Christmas Story Reading KinderCare






Dates of camp  
4/19/2024-4/21/2024

**Camp Gray is a retreat center located in Reedsburg, Wisconsin. The camp is about three hours from Chicago, and just north of Madison. The camp consist of 225 beautiful acres of campgrounds.**





# Purpose of Camp Gray Retreat

- **Help young men develop leadership skills**
  - **Expose young men to experiences outside of their community**
  - **Build character**
  - **Cultivate independence**
  - **Social and Emotional Support**
- 





We are  
preparing our  
young men to  
take the next  
step

**Thank you**





## A Few Good M.E.N.

A male mentoring group



# **NEW BUSINESS**

**D. Possible action to approve Terrace Metrics Software and Service Agreement – Mr. Fickes (Approval needed)**



# **NEW BUSINESS**

**E. Recommended Approval of Thornwood Tennis Court Replacement – Mr. Horton (Approval needed)**



# **NEW BUSINESS**

**F. Recommended Approval of Thornridge Athletics Supplies –  
Mr. Horton (Approval needed)**



# **NEW BUSINESS**

## **G. Presentation of Tentative Tax Levy 2023 – Mr. Horton**



# **NEW BUSINESS**

**H. Resolution declaring an intent to issue up to \$12,200,000 of working cash fund bonds and directing that notice of such intent be published in the manner provided by law**



# SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT



# EXECUTIVE SESSION

- **Motion to enter into Closed Session, pursuant to 2(c) of the Open Meetings Act to consider the following:**
  - **The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees;**
  - **Student discipline;**
  - **Collective negotiating matters; and**
  - **Pending, probable or imminent litigation**



# RECONVENE OPEN SESSION



# ACTION ITEMS FOLLOWING OPEN SESSION



# ADJOURNMENT

## **Next Regular Meeting DECEMBER 13, 2023 THORNBRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL**

District 205 Vision: Building an exemplary high-quality organization that produces major gains in student achievement and prepares all students to be productive citizens in a global society.

District 205 Mission: To develop productive citizens who are enrolled, enlisted or employed at the completion of high school.

District 205 Core Values: Empathy, Trust, Pride, Responsiveness, High Expectations with High Support Integrity, Commitment to Excellence, Innovation, and Collaboration