



THORNTON TOWNSHIP  
HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 205

# BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

**MARCH 8, 2023**

Serving All or Portions of the Following Communities:

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

# **OPEN SESSION**

C A L L   T O   O R D E R

Tonight's meeting is being streamed live via videoconferencing on Microsoft Teams and is video recorded. The Board President declares that an in-person meeting is not practical or prudent because of the current Disaster Proclamation issued by the Governor. Physical presence for the entire Board of Education and community is not feasible due to the disaster.

# **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 Minutes: Regular Meeting dated February 8, 2023
- B. Approval of District 205 Bills: Dated February 9, 2023, through March 8, 2023
- C. Personnel: Approval of Resignations, Leave of Absence, New Hires & Terminations dated March 8, 2023
- D. Ratification(s):
  - i. Approval of Thornton Township High School 2023 IHSA Boys Wrestling State Finals Overnight Fieldtrip, Champaign, IL, February 16-18, 2023
  - ii. Approval of Thornton Township High School and Thornwood High School IHSA Speech State Tournament Overnight Fieldtrip, Peoria, IL, February 16-18, 2023
  - iii. Approval of Thornwood High School Speech State Finals Tournament Overnight Fieldtrip, Peoria, IL, February 17-18, 2023
  - iv. Approval of Thornton Township High School Girls Wrestling IHSA State Finals Overnight Fieldtrip, Bloomington, IL, February 23-25, 2023
  - v. Approval of Thornwood High School Boys Track and Field at Carthage College Overnight Fieldtrip, Kenosha, WI, March 17-18, 2023

# 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.”

The Board will accept comments via email statements to be read at the meeting. Public comments were emailed to [hill.laura@district205.net](mailto:hill.laura@district205.net).



FOIA





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

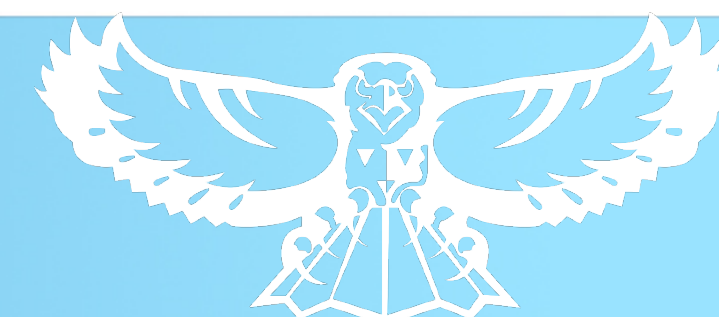
MR. FICKES

# THORNBRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL

B L A C K   H I S T O R Y   M O N T H   P O T L U C K



**THORNTON TOWNSHIP**  
HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 205



# THORNBRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL

F A M I L Y F U N N I G H T



THORNTON TOWNSHIP  
HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 205



PHONE: 708-225-4000

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

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



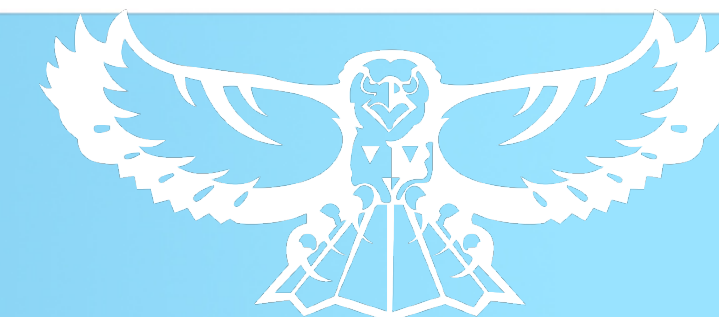
# THORNridge HIGH SCHOOL

P O L I S H E D P E B B L E S

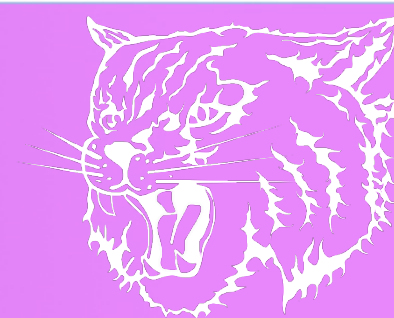


THORNTON TOWNSHIP  
HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 205

Students practice interviewing one another to prepare for Job Shadow trip to ComEd Training Center.



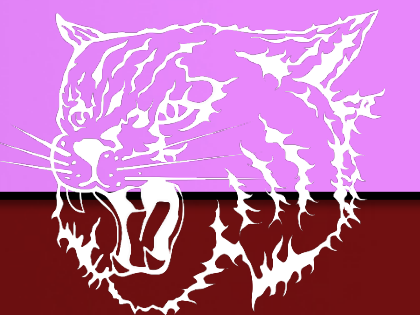
Several of our Wildcat students displayed Random Acts of Kindness by purchasing cupcakes and distributing through the hallways during passing periods.



## G I R L S ' W R E S T L I N G I H S A T O U R N A M E N T

Destiny Bright and Jalah Wilson went 1-2 and made it to the top 12 in the State. Destiny made history as the 1st girl to place in the Boys SAC Conference. Jalah was the 1st girl to become a Champion in the District for an IHSA Sectional and qualify for State. Destiny also joins her as the 1st to Place in a Sectional and qualify for State.

CONGRATULATIONS Ladies!

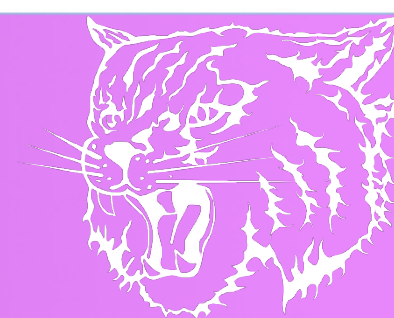


# THORNTON

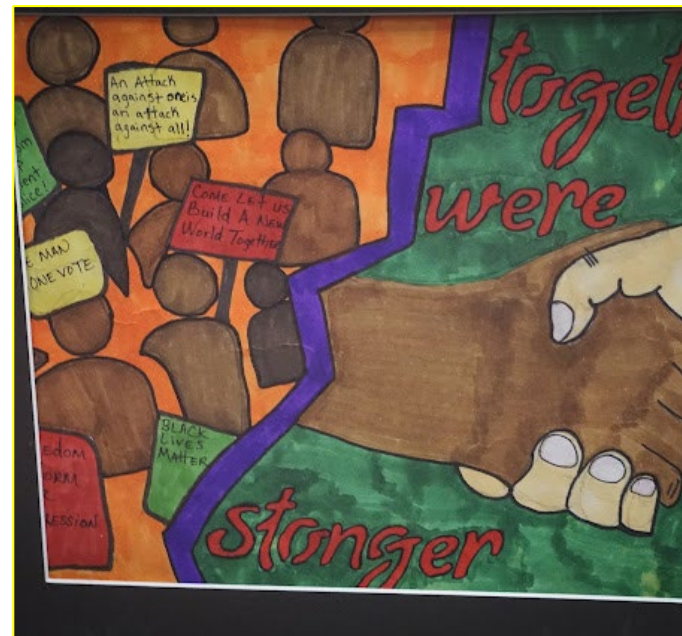
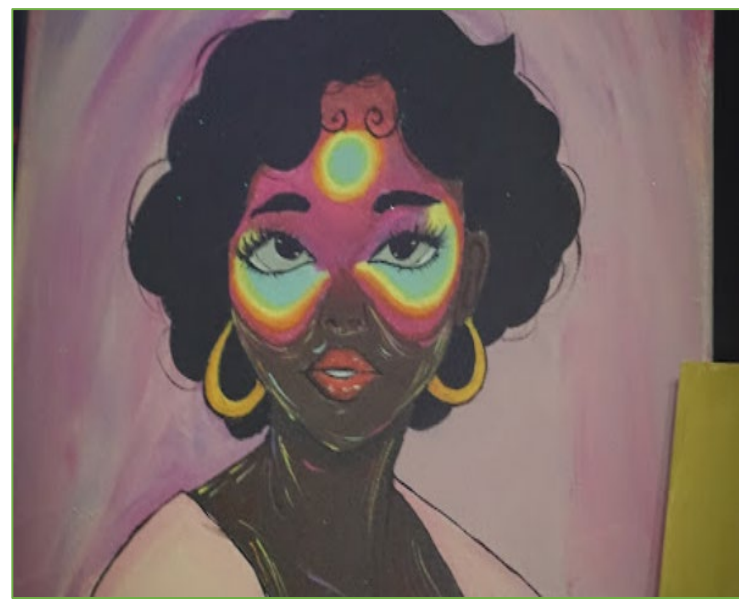
## BLACK HISTORY ASSEMBLY



THORNTON TOWNSHIP  
HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 205

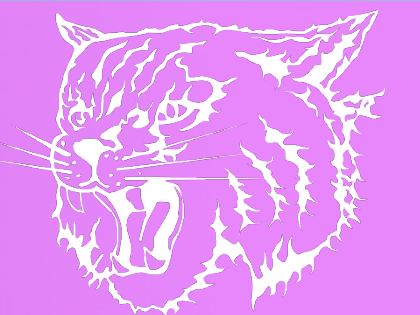


### STUDENTS' ART



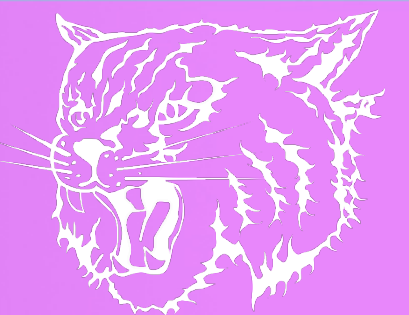
1ST PLACE WINNER DOOR  
DECORATING CONTEST

### PRINCIPAL WHITAKER



### CONGRATULATIONS!

Principal Todd L. Whitaker was received the 29th Annual Archbishop James P. Lyke African American Male Image Award. Also, **CONGRATULATIONS** to Senior Anthony Gasper-Butler II on being a Scholarship Recipient of this same award. He received \$2,000.



## THUNDERBIRDS CELEBRATE BLACK HISTORY



### Thunderbirds Celebrate Black History Month

Teachers, Staff and Students  
participated in African Attire Day and  
Wear Your Family Reunion T-Shirt Day



# THORNWOOD

## T H U N D E R B I R D S



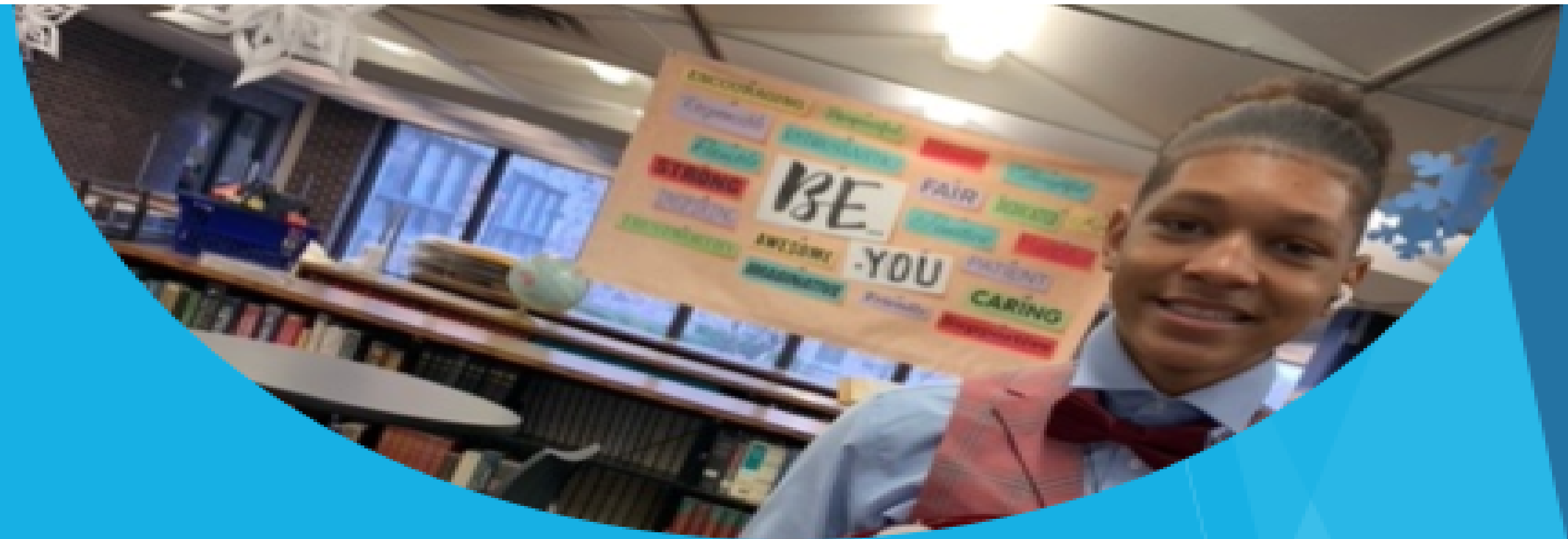
**THORNTON TOWNSHIP**  
HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 205

**Congratulations  
Xyzavion Matthews!**

**Reader and Leader!**

Thank you to all staff and students who support  
our Abe Reader program.

Your signatures affirm and celebrate reading for  
pleasure, exploration, and emotional resilience.



### **Become an ABE Reader 2022/23**

Earn extra credit, have a chance to win the monthly raffle and raise your G.P.A:

- Check out any Abe Reader book from any source you choose.
- Read or listen to that book
- When you finish the book, have an ABE talk with one of the librarians or schedule a one-on-one interview with a librarian
- Every TW student can participate in the program to earn extra credit.
- There are over 350 books to choose from.

*Congrats!*



# THORNWOOD

T H U N D E R B I R D S



**THORNTON TOWNSHIP**  
HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 205



**Thornwood Scholarship Recipient**

**Congratulations**  
to Cameren Holder  
who received an  
**\$8,000** scholarship  
to Jackson State University!



# THORNWOOD

## THUNDERBIRDS



**THORNTON TOWNSHIP**  
HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 205



Thornwood Speech Team **TOOK FIRST PLACE** in the **IHSA Regional Finals.**

They were Runner-Ups at the Sectionals and Finished 6<sup>th</sup> in the State Competition that took place in Peoria, IL February 17 - 19, 2023



# THORNWOOD

## T H U N D E R B I R D S



THORNTON TOWNSHIP  
HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 205

## Congrats to the 26-3 Conference Champions

Thornwood's Girls' Basketball Team finished their season with a record of 28-5.

They were **undefeated** in conference play and finished 1<sup>st</sup> place in the Southland Athletic Conference.

The following Lady T-birds earned All Conference Honors:

- Trinity Cheers
- Kayla Johnson
- Janiya Saverson
- Jabrea LaCaze (At Large)
- Phalan Sigers (At Large)



# THORNWOOD

## T H U N D E R B I R D S



THORNTON TOWNSHIP  
HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 205



# THORNWOOD

## T H U N D E R B I R D S



**THORNTON TOWNSHIP**  
HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 205

### Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC) Recognition of Excellence – Thornwood High School Receives GOLD Honor for the Second Consecutive Year!

Illinois law requires public high school seniors to complete either the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or the Alternative Application for Illinois Financial Aid (Alternative Application) as a prerequisite to receiving a high school diploma effective with the class of 2021. ISAC recognizes the efforts of high schools that focus on supporting their students and families through this financial aid process. Four levels of recognition from bronze to platinum honors have been defined according to a school's FAFSA and Alternative Application completion rate of 66% and higher.

On Thursday, February 16, 2023, ISAC presented Thornwood Principal Don Holmes and College & Career Counselor Razietta Bishop with a Recognition of Excellence Gold Honors banner in honor of the Class of 2022 surpassing an 85% FAFSA completion rate.

This is the second consecutive year that Thornwood has received this honor.



# THORNWOOD

## THUNDERBIRDS



**THORNTON TOWNSHIP**  
HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 205

### Thornwood Students attend the USHLI - United States Hispanic Leadership Institute Conference and College Fair

After a three-year COVID-induced absence, USHLI hosted its 2023 Student Leadership Series (SLS) launch in person Thursday, February 16, at the Sheraton Grand Chicago Riverwalk.

Ms. Alma Roque and 8 additional TW faculty chaperoned approximately 90 Thornwood Hispanic and Latino students. They were part of a group of 2,000 students representing 45 high schools in nine states in attendance at the SLS Rally and College Recruitment Fair. Students had the opportunity to meet and interact with recruiters from 57 colleges and universities.

Featured speakers were Mateo Magdaleno, IDQ CEO, and Melody Gonzales, executive director of White House Initiatives for Advancing Educational Equity, Excellence, and Economic Opportunity. Entertainment was provided by Empowerment Comedian Ernie G.

A huge thank you to Principal Don Holmes and Dr. Albert Holmes for allowing these students to experience this great opportunity!



### Young Woman's Youth Chat

On February 24<sup>th</sup> TW hosted the Young Woman's Youth Chat featuring Yara Artis. Yara Artis is a master's Level Clinical Mental Health Graduate from Concordia University Chicago and an SIUC Alumni. Currently, she is enrolled in North Central University Doctor of Philosophy in Psychology, specializing in Trauma & Disaster Relief. She now works in the Counseling Field and has dedicated her life to transforming her trauma into purpose. Within her first book, "Deeply Rooted", you take an intimate walk with her as she highlights the tools to develop resilience and maintain success. Her goal is to empower others who struggle with trauma.

The goal of this speaker series is to bring in culturally responsive leaders who can speak to the importance of mental health through the lens of the Diaspora as well as the importance of self-respect and their roles as future leaders of our community. This chat occurred during these periods (2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4/5<sup>th</sup>, 5/6<sup>th</sup>) in the PAC. This was invitation only. The agency of our at-risk students will be treated with care. Their voices matter. Despite professional titles the compatibility with the student guests is paramount and will be considered when selecting adult participants. This is to create a safe space and to protect and allow for the vulnerability of our students.



**The YOUTH EMPOWERMENT PANELIST**

 <b>TAMIKO NETTLES</b> CEO & Founder of Let Go- Be Great, LLC	 <b>YARA ARTIS</b> Trauma Expert	 <b>DR. BRITTNE MARTIN</b> CEO & Founder of Doctoral Mom Inc.
 <b>ANTOINETTE FRAZIER</b> Doctoral Candidate, Mental Health Expert	 <b>SHANTELL E. JAMISON</b> Certified Life Coach, Author, Motivational Speaker	
 <b>JUREMA GORHAM, M.ED</b> Executive Director of Burst Into Books LLC	 <b>PAMELA DENISE</b> Motivational Speaker, Author, Wellness Coach	

Thornwood High School  
2/24/2023  
9 am - 1pm CST



# PEACE CENTER

## “Show Up & Show Out”



THORNTON TOWNSHIP  
HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 205

The Peace Center program is firing on all cylinders! Students of the program continue to meet this year's goals to

- (1) increase overall attendance,
- (2) decrease negative behaviors and
- (3) improve math and reading scores.

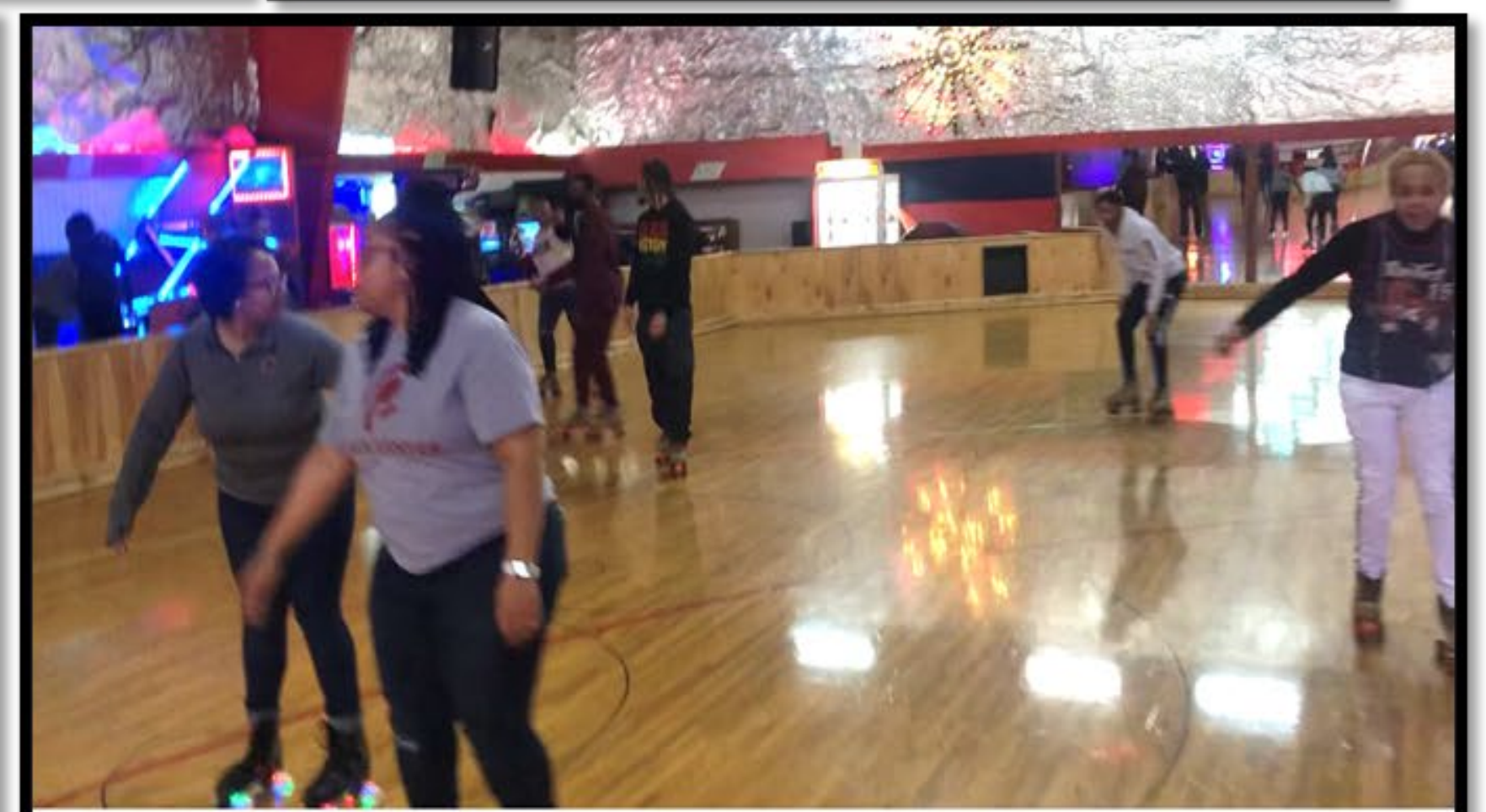
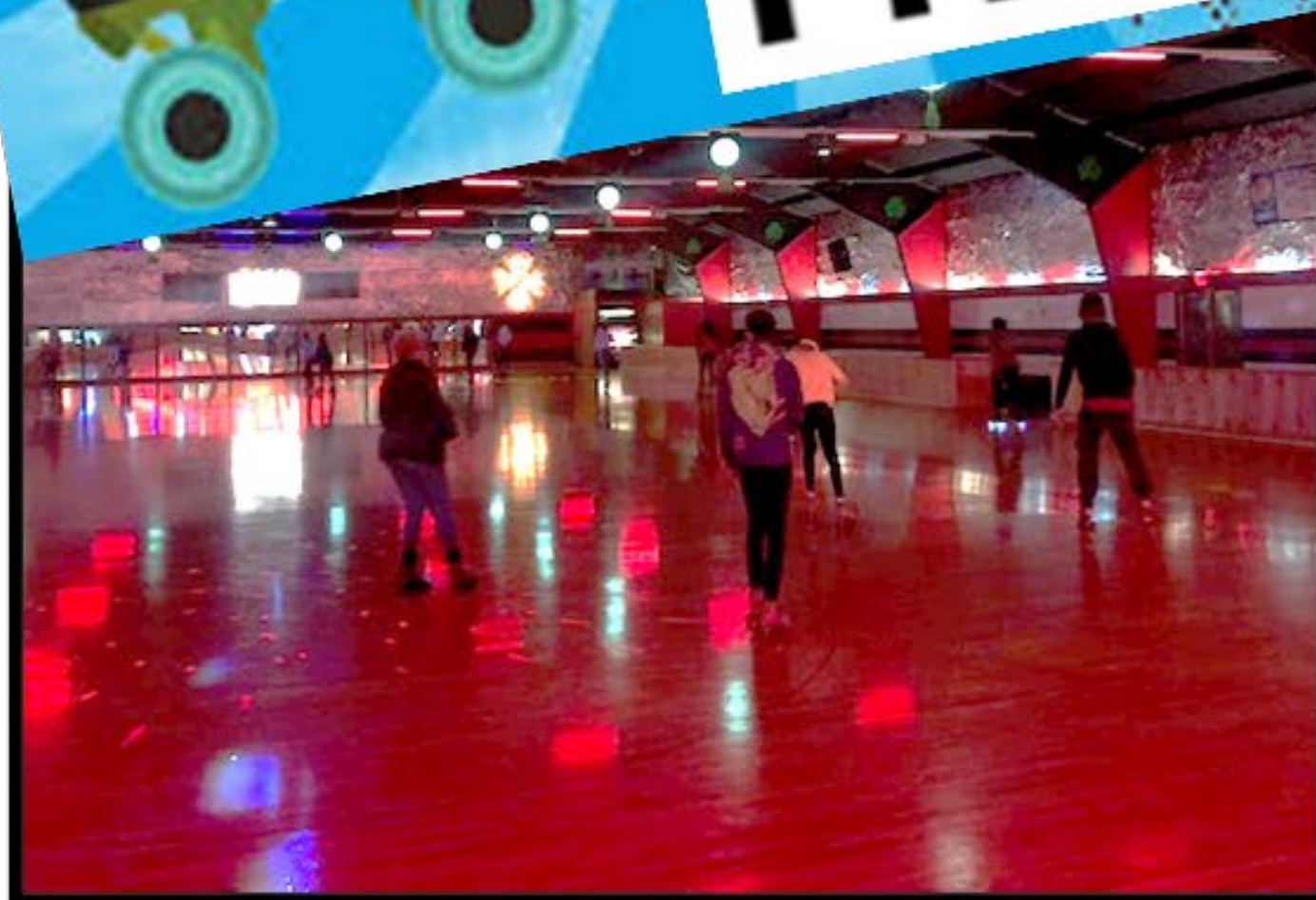
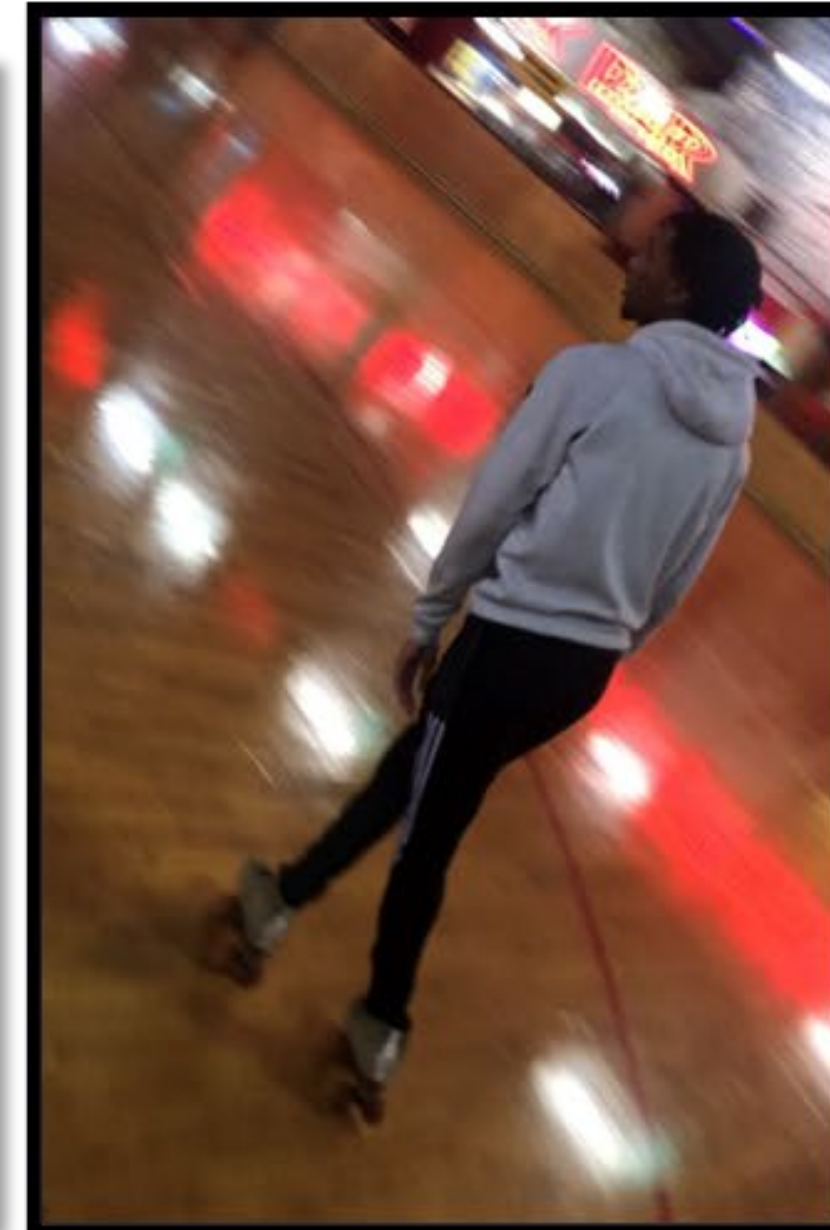
Because of student efforts, and with the help of District Office, students were awarded a mental break day at Lynwood Skate Rink.

*The PEACE CENTER: encourage academic and social knowledge and skills necessary to develop empathy, manage emotions, achieve goals, and establish and maintain positive relationships.*

# PEACE CENTER



**THORNTON TOWNSHIP**  
HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 205



*The PEACE CENTER: encourage academic and social knowledge and skills necessary to develop empathy, manage emotions, achieve goals, and establish and maintain positive relationships.*

PHONE: 708-225-4000

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

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

# PEACE CENTER

## STUDENTS' STATEMENTS



**THORNTON TOWNSHIP**  
HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 205



**What was your favorite part of the trip?**

*"Seeing everyone out laughing and having fun with each other despite differences."*

**What did you learn while on the trip? Were you able to get a workout in?**

*"I learned it's important to socialize in order to enjoy things to the fullest. Not really."*

**In a complete sentence please discuss if you enjoyed the field trip. Why or why not?**

*"Yes, I enjoyed the field trip because it was a calm day to enjoy yourself and relax. It was also a nice way to clear your head."*

***How can skating be a type of workout?***

*"Skating also improves upper body strength and mobility due to the pumping and swinging motion of the arms. As you're rotating your torso by using your core muscles, you're using your shoulders and arms to help propel you forward. The legs and glutes push you forward, too."*

# INFANT CARE CENTER

F I E L D   T R I P



THORNTON TOWNSHIP  
HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 205



# INFANT CARE CENTER

## F I E L D T R I P

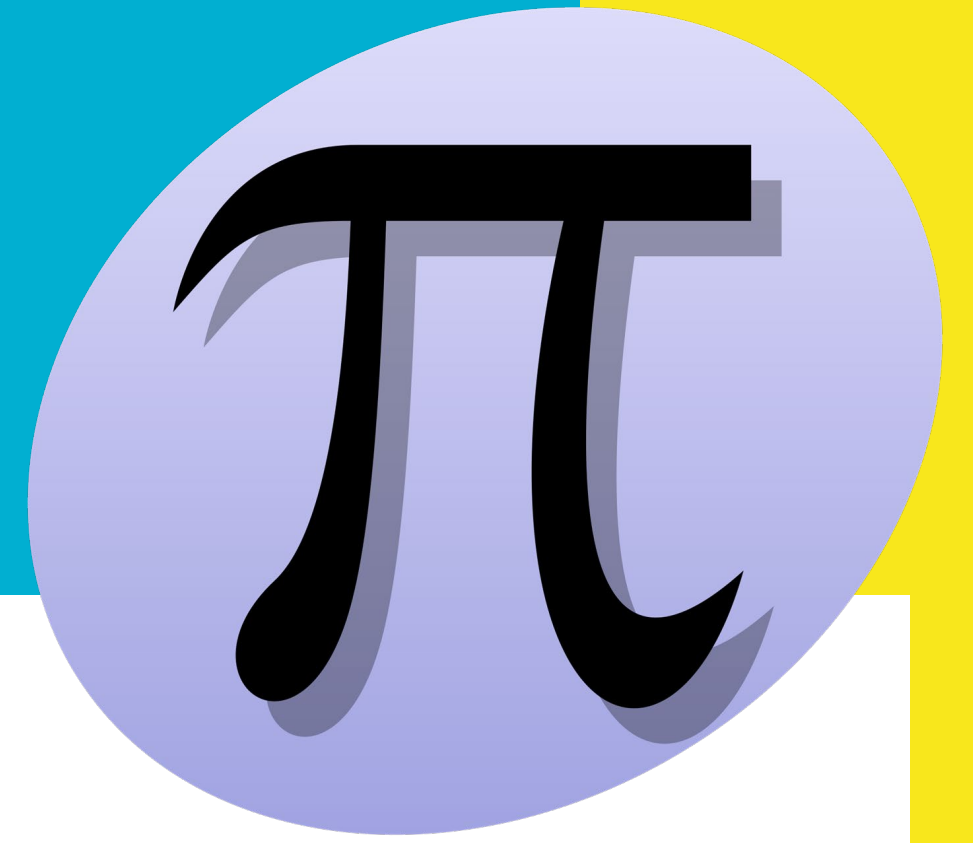


THORNTON TOWNSHIP  
HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 205



# **NEW BUSINESS**

A. Presentation: Thornwood High School Mathletes - Mr. Fickes



# Thornwood Mathletes

**2022-2023 School Year**



- Thornwood had 36 students compete at the SAC Mathletes competition.
- Thornwood students placed in the top 3 in the conference for each of the 15 different competitions.
- Thornwood Mathletes placed 2nd overall in the conference with a score of 395 points.

## 1st Place Honors



- Thornwood students received 1st place in each of the following events:
  - Functions and Graphs Oral Presentation: Deven West and Victoria Collins
  - Probability Oral Presentation: Jeremy Price and Fabiola Herrera
  - Fractional Equations Written Competition: Candace Agyepong, Victoria Collins, Laurence Nnabuo, Addison Perkins, Kaleb Randle, and Deven West
  - Factoring Written Competition: Kaden Bentley-Townsend, Kolabode Kolawole, Miriam Onyenso, Dammian Serrano, Ariana Whitaker, Madison Wright

## Perfect Scores

- **The following students scored a PERFECT 10/10 in their competitions:**
  - Deven West: Functions & Graphs and Fractional Equations
  - Victoria Collins: Functions & Graphs
  - Audrey Davis: Radical Equations
  - Oluwanifemi Ajayi: Truth Tables
  - Taylor Thrasher: Truth Tables
  - Isis Hernandez: Truth Tables



# **NEW BUSINESS**

B. Presentation - Trade School Thursdays - Mr. Fickes

**D205**

# **COLLEGE & CAREER CENTER**

Trade School Thursdays

# CCTE

**Career Technical Education**



**Theresa King, Annette Johnson, Razietta Bishop**

*D205 College & Career Counselors*

# Thornton Township High School

## *Trade Rep Visits*

On at least two Thursdays in each month, representatives from Community Colleges, Trade Schools, the Military, and Local Unions visits **Thornton's CCC** to give students vital information needed to successfully pursue their post-high school plan.

### Schedule of events:

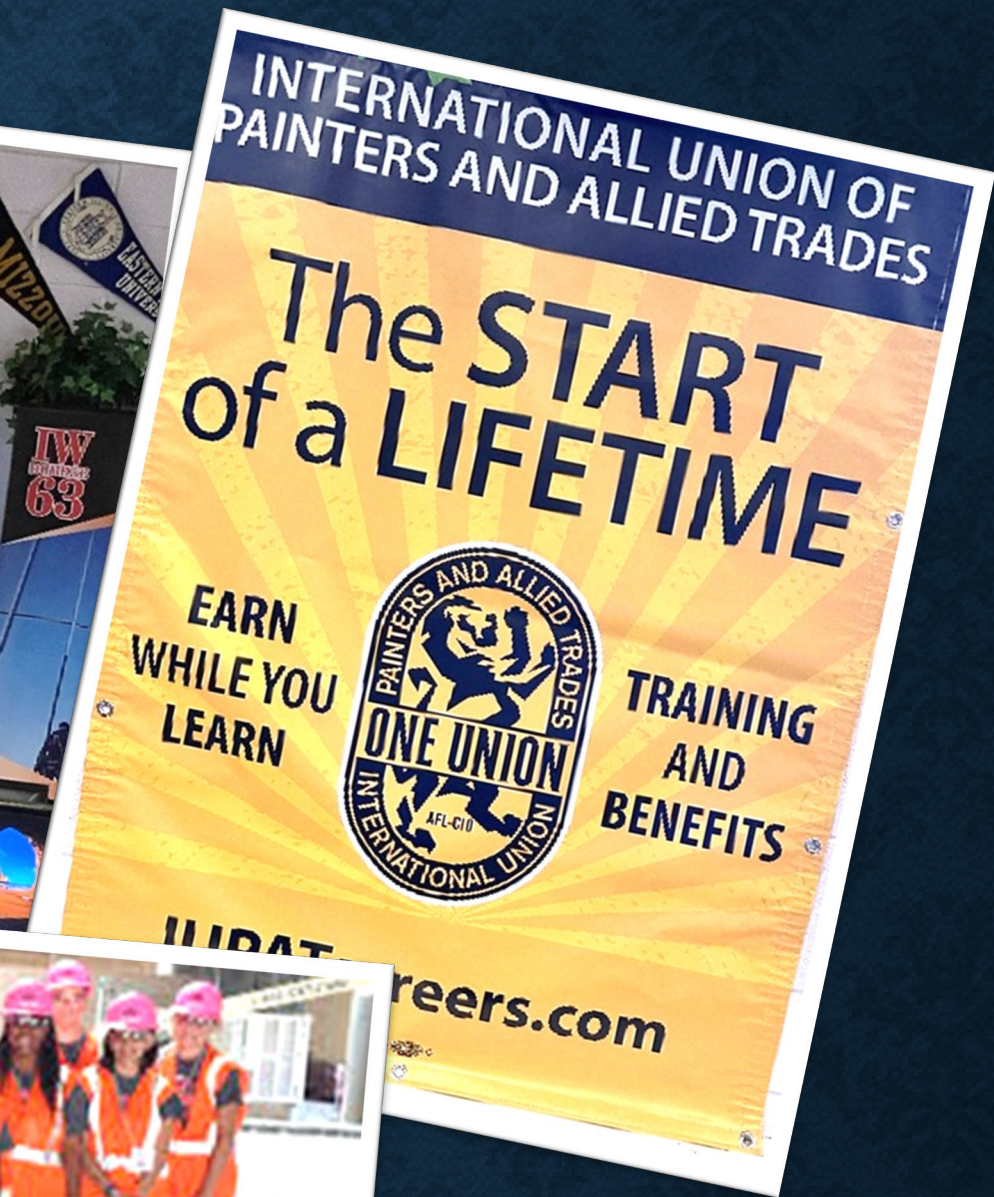
- ◆ 10/20 Construction Trades
- ◆ 10/27 Barber and Cosmetology
- ◆ 11/3 Carpenters Union
- ◆ 11/17 National Guard
- ◆ 12/1 International Painters
- ◆ 12/8 JJC Culinary Arts
- ◆ 12/15 Electrician IBEW
- ◆ 1/12 CAIC Manufacturing SSC
- ◆ 2/9 CREA Construction
- ◆ Allied Trades Heating & Air Conditioning
- ◆ Diesel Repair
- ◆ Truck Driving
- ◆ Automotive Repair



Enrolled. Enlisted. Employed

# Thornton Township High School

## *Trade Rep Visits*



### Student Comments:

**TT Senior:** "I want to be a painter. I am glad you brought them here."

**TT Junior:** "I didn't know girls could be Barbers and make good money."

**TT Senior:** "Thanks for connecting me with the union trades."

# Thornridge High School

## Trade Rep Visits

Thornridge High School CCC recently introduced "Trade School Thursdays" 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester of the 2022-2023 academic school year. Ever since its introduction, TR have had great opportunities come from those visits. From educational demonstration, hands-on experiences to potential career and networking opportunities. Trade School Thursday are opening doors for TR students, and we at TR are walking right through them.



*John Amico*  
J O H N A M I C O  
School of Hair Design

John Amico School of Hair Design



**Bedazzled by Tish**

Cosmetologist & Celebrity Hair Designer  
John Amico School of Hair Design Alum

Enrolled. Enlisted. Employed



Mrs. A. Johnson

# Thornridge High School

## Trade Rep Visits



  
**CHICAGO**  
INSTRUCTION CENTER FOR CAREER DEVELOPMENT  
**Chicago Instruction Center for  
Career Development**  
Phlebotomy Technician Program



**Olive-Harvey**  
Transportation, Distribution,  
Logistics, and Operations

Enrolled. Enlisted. Employed

  
**Mrs. A. Johnson**

# Thornridge High School

*Trade Rep Visits*

## Upcoming Visits & Tours



**Network Barber College**

Rep Visit ~ March 16, 2023



**Calumet Area Industrial  
Commission**

Rep Visit ~ Reschedule TBD



**John Amico School of Hair Design**

Campus Visit

March 29, 2023 (Tentative)



**South Suburban College**

College Resource Day Campus Visit

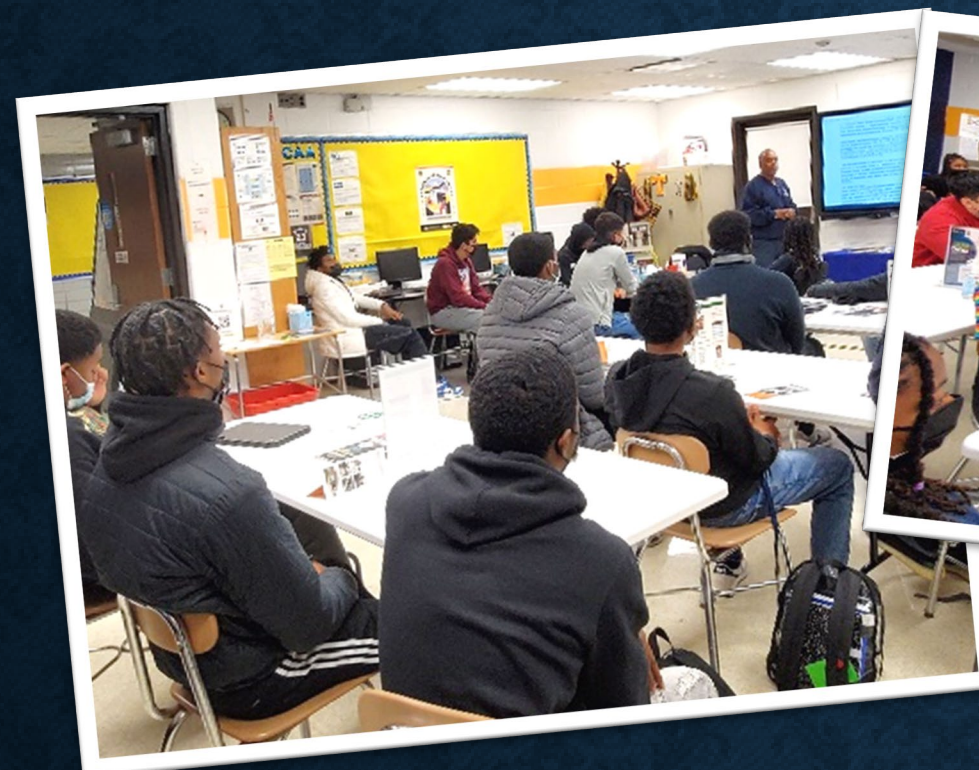
April 26, 2023



# Thornwood High School

## *Trade Rep Visits*

The **Thornwood Career Center** hosts various junior colleges, tech/trade/career schools and apprenticeship programs to expose juniors and seniors to opportunities that do not require a college degree but lead to gainful employment.



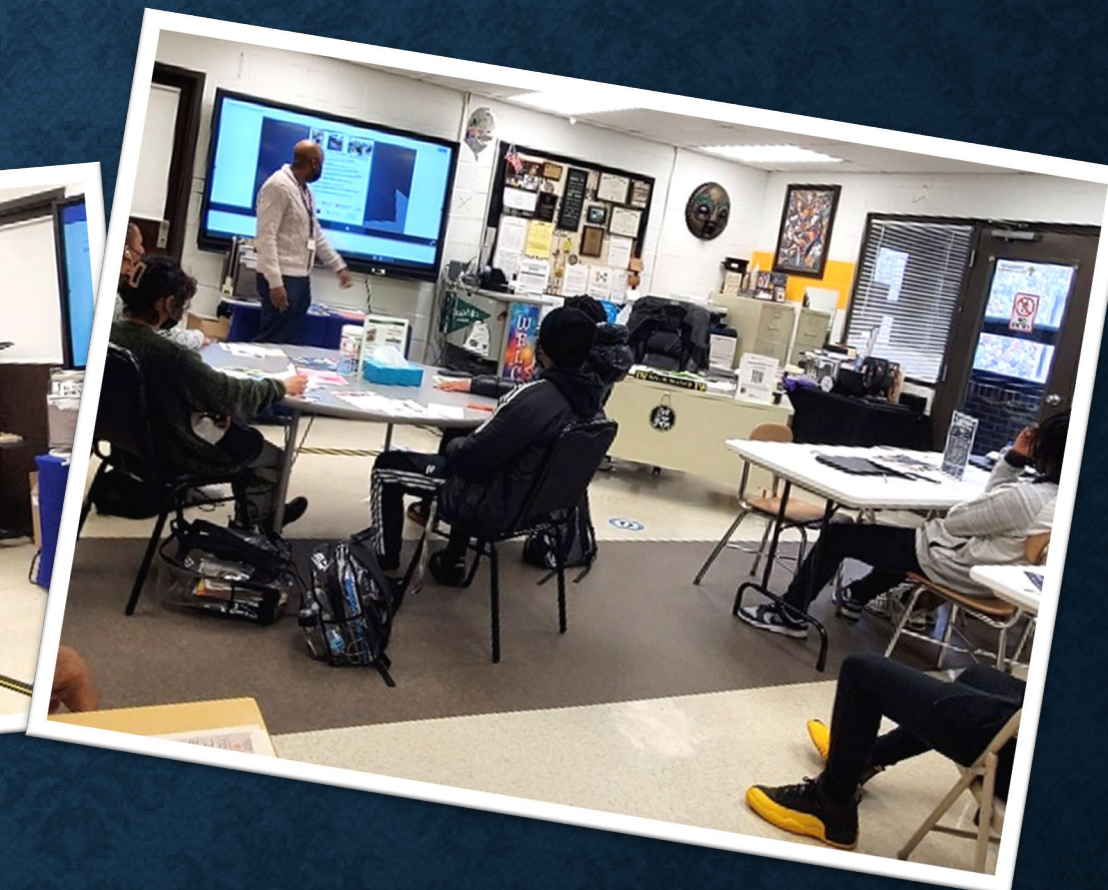
**I.B.E.W. Electrician  
Apprenticeship Program**



**Mid-America Carpentry  
Training Program**  
Carpentry, Roofing, Flooring,  
Welding, Concrete Formation



**SSC Barber College  
Program**



**Olive Harvey College**  
Auto, Diesel & Aviation Maintenance & Technician  
Forklift Training  
CDL & Commercial Driving Training  
Supply Chain Management



# Thornwood High School

*Trade Rep Visits*



Local 130 Plumbing Apprenticeship Program



SSC Construction Trades Program

Carpentry, Plumbing, Solar Panel Installation, HVAC, Electrician, Green Energy Home Construction



CAIC One Workforce Job Training Program



Hemo-Stat Phlebotomy Services LLC



160 Truck Driving Academy



John Amico School of Hair Design

Cosmetology and Esthetician

Enrolled. Enlisted. Employed



Ms. R. Bishop

# Thornwood High School

## Trade Rep Visits



Tricoci University of  
Beauty Culture



Joliet Junior College  
Culinary Arts Program



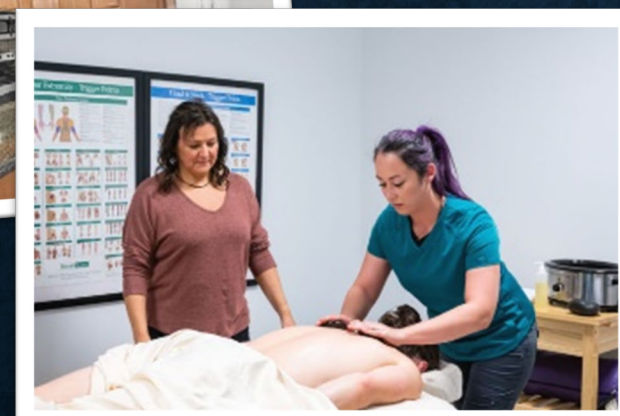
Prairie State College  
Workforce Training  
Programs



Painters DC14  
Apprenticeship  
Program



Dionne Scott of Keller Williams  
Preferred Realty  
March 9th



Moraine Valley Community  
College's Therapeutic  
Massage Program  
April 20th

Enrolled. Enlisted. Employed



Ms. R. Bishop



# THANK YOU!

Theresa King, Annette Johnson, Razietta Bishop

*District 205 College & Career Counselors*

# **NEW BUSINESS**

C. Recommended Approval of European Trip the Summer of 2024 – Mr. Fickes (Approval Needed)



**SCHOOL BOARD  
PRESENTATION**  
— 2023 —



# SCHOOL BOARD PRESENTATION

## *Belgium, France & Switzerland*

*June 10, 2024 - June 19, 2024*

### Contents

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Payment options .....	8
Insurance policy .....	9
Positive feedback .....	12
Tour specifics .....	13
Supporting documents .....	15



Welcome to Explorica and thank you for your interest in student travel! As a licensed tour operator, Explorica is proud to be able to give your students the opportunity of a lifetime! When your school travels with Explorica, you'll bring your classroom lessons to life and offer your students valuable exposure to a city outside of their home town. It's an educational adventure for both you and your students.

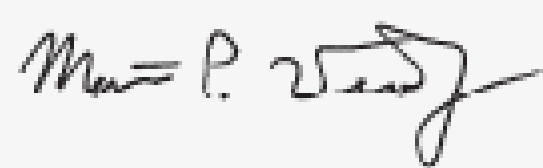
Before we begin, here's a little more about us:

**Founded in 2000**, Explorica helps teachers create educational tours full of authentic, interactive learning experiences. We specialize in connecting teachers and students to new cultures, languages and people on educational tours across the globe.

We believe we can create a better world by enriching every student with a cultural experience through travel. We aim to be the product leader in educational travel, helping teachers and students discover the wonders of the world through safe and reliable tour experiences. And we do this with a passion for delighting customers and connecting travelers to the world.

Explorica's combination of exclusive online tools and personalized service enables us to create tours uniquely suited to provide both the best value and the most customized tours in the industry. Every Explorica tour includes flights or bus transportation, accommodations, on-tour transportation, most meals and an expert, full-time Tour Director dedicated to your group. What's more, as a WorldStrides organization, we have a network of more than 45 offices around the globe. And with our veteran Program Consultants, Customer Care Representatives, and comprehensive, user-friendly website, we're always here to support you from the moment you contact us, to the minute you shout bon voyage!

**Join more than one million teachers and students in experiencing the world on Explorica tours!** Happy travels!

Sincerely,  




## Hotel information

Even though you'll be far from home, your comfort won't be compromised. That's because when you travel with Explorica, you'll stay in clean, safe, attractive hotels that provide modern amenities and easy access to major attractions.

It is Explorica's policy to accommodate students in safe and clean hotels. We follow the three "C"s for our hotels – clean, comfortable and convenient. Upgraded hotels are available upon request.

The selection of our hotels is based on proximity to tour sights, comfort, quality and safety. Students are roomed in either triple or quad accommodations based on the hotel availability. Students have the option to upgrade to twin rooming for \$45 per night. Paying adults (23 or older) are roomed in twin/double accommodations and a \$45 per night double/twin rooming supplement is included in the adult total cost (\$75 per night for cruises and ferries). Adults have the option to upgrade to a single room for an additional \$40 per night.

### ***HOTEL SAMPLE SPECIFIC TO PARIS, FRANCE***

#### ***Hotel Campanile Paris Pont de Suresnes***

*Standard hotel*

#### ***Hotel description***

*"Your Campanile Hotel-Restaurant Paris - Pont de Suresnes, fully-refurbished in July 2012, is a 3 star hotel located in the centre of Suresnes within easy reach of Porte Maillot. The ideal setting for both your professional and personal trips, you can reach La Défense, the CNIT conference centre and the Palais des Congrès in five minutes by tram. The Eiffel Tower, Champs Elysées and Roland Garros stadium can all easily be reached on public transport."*

#### ***Group leader evaluations***

*"This was a great hotel! Loved the location (for Paris)."*

*"I enjoyed this hotel a great deal. It was clean and neat and in an area of Paris easily accessible by public transit."*



## Meal information

Explorica provides breakfast and dinner daily on all tours (unless otherwise indicated on your itinerary). Explorica makes sure all travelers have the opportunity to experience local cuisine with their meals, such as a tapas dinner in Spain, crêpes in France or wiener schnitzel in Germany.

## Tour director

Your tour director is responsible for organizing the overall logistics of the trip. He or she will be with you from the beginning of the tour until the end to oversee the arrangements for all transportation, meals, accommodations and sightseeing. The tour director can also provide a wealth of information and suggestions for your free time. Local guides are your resource for detailed destination information and help supplement the travel experience.

## Communication on tour

Explorica provides a Tour Diary for each group that travels. We were the first company to develop the diary and have been providing this service for 10 successful years. Our online Tour Diary lets parents and friends see pictures of the group as they travel, so they know their children are safe, happy, learning and having fun. Here is an example of a posting for a group that traveled on our Galápagos Islands tour in February 2017:

“Day 2 - Hello everyone! Today was a wonderful first day! After breakfast we went to visit the highlights of Quito, museums, churches, plazas, government palace, and more. Then we had lunch in a traditional restaurant of the old town, after that we went to the equator line; there we had fun practicing some experiments and some of us got a certification as ‘egg master.’ We went back to the hotel and at night kids had dinner, and finally it was time to prepare everything to Galapagos! Tomorrow we leave early. We’re having a great time!”



## Safety and security

All tour directors come highly recommended with at least five years of experience in the industry. In addition to their safety expertise, we provide 24/7 emergency support, and have a global presence with over 45 offices around the world.

Explorica also offers each traveler the option to purchase the Travel Protection Plan at \$16/day or \$24/day for the Travel Protection Plan Plus.

Explorica has a \$50 million Liability Insurance Policy (see below). We can have the school information printed on the certificate before traveling.

We are a member of USTOA: United States Tour Operators Association's \$1 Million Travelers Assistance Program. As an Active Member of USTOA, Explorica, Inc. is required to post \$1 million with USTOA to be used to reimburse, in accordance with the terms and conditions of the USTOA Travelers Assistance Program, the advance payments of Explorica, Inc. customers in the unlikely event of Explorica, Inc. bankruptcy, insolvency or cessation of business. Further, the \$1 million posted by Explorica, Inc. may be sufficient to provide only a partial recovery of the advance payments received by Explorica, Inc. Complete details of the USTOA Travelers Assistance Program may be obtained by writing to USTOA at 275 Madison Avenue, Suite 2014, New York, New York 10016, by email to [information@ustoa.com](mailto:information@ustoa.com) or by visiting their website at [www.USTOA.com](http://www.USTOA.com).

In addition to the USTOA, Explorica is affiliated with the following notable organizations: Student Youth Travel Association (SYTA), National Tour Association (NTA), European Tour Operators Association (ETOA), Better Business Bureau (BBB), International Air Transportation Association (IATA), World Youth Student & Educational (WYSE) Travel Confederation, British Educational Travel Association (BETA). We also partner with iJET, a leading worldwide security and risk management organization, for additional assistance in evaluating global conditions.



## Liability policy

To Whom It May Concern,

We understand that many school officials have expressed concern about allowing their students to travel. We want to assure you that the safety of the tour participants is Explorica's number one priority and that we have policies and procedures in place to protect the school, school district, teachers and participants involved with this tour.

Explorica's liability insurance is one of the largest in the industry at \$50 million. This insurance coverage extends to cover certain individuals acting on behalf of Explorica as tour directors, program leaders, chaperones, and volunteer speakers. Your school can be named as additional insured, if desired.

We of course share your concern for the students' safety and peace of mind. Our optional Cancel for Any Reason travel protection plan provides medical, baggage and cancellation insurance coverage for our travelers. We also have a network of support staff in the United States as well as a 24-hour emergency service for groups and their families. We offer additional peace of mind for parents and friends of our travelers by providing an online Tour Diary that is updated with pictures and journal entries by the Tour Director throughout the trip.

If you would like to discuss this matter further, we would be happy to speak with you at any time. Please call us at 1.888.310.7120.

Sincerely,  
Stephane Cosse  
VP Operations



## Payment options

### FULL PAYMENT

Pay in full at time of enrollment.

### MONTHLY AUTOMATED PLAN

Pay your \$50 deposit plus any travel protection plan fees with a credit card or checking account upon enrollment, and the balance of your tour fee will be automatically charged to your card or debited from your account in equal monthly installments until 35 days prior to your departure date. Please note that you must make all payments by credit card, debit card or checking account. If two consecutive payments are returned NSF or declined, we will change your account to the 4-Step Manual Plan.

### 4-STEP MANUAL PLAN

Pay your \$99 deposit upon enrollment, and then pay \$500 toward your balance 30 days later. At 110 days prior to departure 75% of the balance is due. At 65 days prior to departure the remainder of the balance is due. You must make each payment manually.

### GENERAL PAYMENT INFORMATION

We accept MasterCard, Visa, ACH checking account payments (and require a credit card or ACH payment for our monthly payment plan), money orders and personal checks. Please note personal checks are only accepted until 75 days prior to departure and ACH payments until 65 days prior to departure.

Each month we will automatically charge the credit cards or debit the checking accounts of participants who choose our monthly payment plan; we will send email reminders of payments due to all other participants approximately two weeks in advance of the payment due date. You will receive payment reminders only through email and not through the mail. Payments that are late are subject to a \$50 late fee. The date of payments is determined by the date of receipt at Explorica. If you are not paid in full by 75 days prior to your departure or do not meet the conditions of your payment plan, then your tour reservation will be cancelled (subject to standard cancellation policy).

Payments rejected due to insufficient funds, disputed by your credit company, returned to us by the drawer's bank, or returned due to a stop-payment order are subject to a \$35 non-refundable fee. We reserve the right to cancel reservations for any participant who does not meet his or her contractually obligated payment schedule. Any bounced checks are subject to a \$35 non-refundable fee.



Insurance policy

EXPLORICA’S TRAVEL PROTECTION PLANS

Through Trip Mate, our third-party travel protection plan provider, four out of five Explorica travelers protect their tours with our travel protection plans. Explorica offers two great plans that help protect your educational travel investment.

EXPLORICA’S TRAVEL PROTECTION PLAN

Our standard travel protection plan covers you for the following events:

- ›A traveler’s injury, sickness, or death of a family member
- ›Theft of passport or visas
- ›Flight cancellations due to strike or bad weather
- ›Loss of luggage and personal effects
- ›Trip cancellation or trip interruption due to covered reasons such as a covered sickness, illness, injury or death
- ›Trip cancellation or trip interruption due to terrorist acts, as defined

EXPLORICA’S TRAVEL PROTECTION PLAN PLUS

Along with providing you the same benefits as our standard Travel Protection Plan, the Explorica Travel Protection Plan Plus also includes our exclusive Cancel For Any Reason Waiver Benefit. With our Cancel For Any Reason Waiver Benefit, if you cancel your trip for any reason not otherwise covered by this policy, we will reimburse you for 75% of the non-refundable cancellation fees which apply to your trip, provided:

- 1) Payment for this plan is received by Explorica within 14 days of your initial deposit/payment for your trip; and
- 2) You cancel your trip 48 hours (2) days or more before your scheduled trip departure date.

This Cancel For Any Reason Waiver Benefit does not cover: 1) penalties associated with any air or other travel arrangements not provided by Explorica; or 2) the failure of Explorica to provide the bargained-for travel arrangements due to cessation of operations for any reason.

The Cancel For Any Reason Waiver Benefit is provided by Explorica and is not an insurance benefit underwritten by United States Fire Insurance Company and must be purchased within 14 days of your initial payment for your trip.



## Insurance policy cont.

### TRAVEL PROTECTION PLAN BENEFITS

The following benefits apply to both of Explorica's high-quality Travel Protection Plans:

#### TRIP INTERRUPTION

If you have to interrupt your Explorica trip after departure due to a covered injury, sickness or death (your own or that of a traveling companion or a family member) or for other covered reasons such as: cancellation of arrangements by an airline due to strike or bad weather; a documented theft of passports or visas; or a terrorist incident which occurs in a city which is listed on the itinerary of your trip and within 30 days prior to your scheduled departure date for your trip, as defined, you will be reimbursed up to the trip cost for the unused, non-refundable land or water arrangements and the additional transport charges paid to return home or to rejoin your trip (limited to economy one-way airfare, or first class if your original tickets were first class).

#### TRAVEL DELAY

Reimburses up to \$100 per day (maximum of \$500) for reasonable accommodation and traveling expenses until travel becomes possible if you are delayed for 12 hours or more due to a covered reason such as a common carrier delay; injury, sickness or death of you or your traveling companion; quarantine; loss of passport, travel documents or money; or natural disaster.

#### MEDICAL EXPENSE/EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

Provides reimbursement up to \$25,000 for reasonable and customary medical expenses incurred while on your trip; emergency dental treatment received during your trip, up to \$750; the costs for emergency transport to home or an appropriate hospital, including escort expense (both, if deemed necessary by the attending physician), for a covered injury or sickness which occurs while on your trip; or the cost of homeward carriage if deceased, up to \$50,000.



## Insurance policy cont.

### **BAGGAGE & PERSONAL EFFECTS**

Coverage up to \$2,000 for direct physical loss or damage to your baggage, passports or visas while on your trip. A \$600 maximum limit applies to jewelry, gems, watches, cameras and camera equipment, and furs; a \$300 per article limit applies to all other items. If, while on your trip, your baggage is delayed for more than 24 hours, we will reimburse you up to \$100 for the purchase of necessary additional clothing and personal articles.

### **PRE-EXISTING CONDITIONS WAIVER**

The plan exclusion for pre-existing conditions is waived if you purchase the plan within 14 days of your initial deposit/payment for your trip.

A “Certificate of Coverage” which provides complete details of the plan, including conditions, exclusions and limitations is available to you on our website under the Travel Protection Plan or at any time by request.

The Explorica Travel Protection Plan benefits are administered by: Trip Mate, Inc. (In CA, dba Trip Mate Insurance Agency), 9225 Ward Parkway, Suite 200, Kansas City, Missouri 64114; tel. 1.800.888.7292.

The Explorica Travel Protection Plan is underwritten by United States Fire Insurance Company, Morristown, NJ.

The cost for Explorica’s Travel Protection Plan is \$16 per day of your tour, maximum \$224. This plan must be purchased at the time of enrollment, and cannot be refunded once selected.

The cost for Explorica’s Travel Protection Plan Plus is \$24 per day of your tour, maximum \$336. This plan must be purchased at the time of enrollment, and cannot be refunded once selected.



## Positive feedback

After every tour Explorica asks our program leaders to create an evaluation to judge our overall pre-tour, during tour, and post-tour performance as a company. Everything is judged and it is a great way to provide feedback for us to improve as a company. Oftentimes we are given such positive feedback that we want to share it with potential Explorica program leaders.

### **Linda L., English & German teacher, Bowdoin, ME**

My students had the time of their lives on this trip. Our tour director was so knowledgeable and incredible that Berlin, Prague and Munich just came alive during these 10 days. What an experience!

### **Michelle D., Coburg, ON**

Well-organized, educational and safe travel — I couldn't ask for more! I have students knocking on my door the first day back asking, “Where is the trip next year?”

### **Joe H., Spanish teacher, Chandler, AZ**

I LOVE teaching, but I LOVE traveling more! What better experience can we bring to the lives of our students than actually living in the countries we study?!

### **Kathleen W., French teacher, Higganum, CT**

A wonderful experience for the students, especially hitting Carnevale in Venice. Our tour director enlivened the whole trip with his wit, charm and depth of knowledge.



## Belgium, France & Switzerland

Beyond the Louvre and the Champs-Élysées lies another side of Paris not visible from its landmarks, and bask in the Mediterranean sun as you explore the beach towns of the Côte d'Azur.

## TOUR SPECIFICS

### TOUR ITINERARY:

#### Day 1 Start tour

#### Day 2 Bonjour Brussels

- › Meet your tour director and check into hotel
- › Brussels tour director-led sightseeing
- › Grand Place, Manneken Pis, Cathédrale des Sts-Michel-et-Gudule

#### Day 3 Brussels -- Paris

- › Travel to Paris via Bruges
- › Bruges tour director-led sightseeing tour
- › Burg Square, Market Square, Beguinage Church and Convent visit, Church of Our Lady
- › Paris city walk
- › Île de la Cité, Notre-Dame Cathedral, Île St. Louis, Latin Quarter visit
- › Dinner in Latin Quarter

#### Day 4 Paris

- › Paris guided sightseeing tour
- › Arc de Triomphe, Champs Élysées, Eiffel Tower, Champ de Mars, École Militaire, Les Invalides, Conciergerie, Tuileries Garden, Place Vendôme, Opera House
- › Optional Versailles guided excursion \$80
- › State Apartments, Hall of Mirrors, Gardens of Versailles
- › Seine River cruise

#### Day 5 Paris

- › Louvre visit
- › Montmartre tour director-led sightseeing
- › Sacré Coeur, Place du Tertre, Moulin Rouge
- › Dinner in Montmartre

#### Day 6 Paris -- Côte d'Azur

- › Travel to Nice on the TGV (one of Europe's fastest train)
- › Nice tour director-led sightseeing
- › Vieux Nice, Promenade des Anglais

#### Day 7 Côte d'Azur

- › Matisse Museum

#### Day 8 Côte d'Azur -- Geneva

- Travel to Geneva via Monaco
- Monaco tour director-led sightseeing tour
- Prince's Palace

#### Day 9 Geneva

- › Geneva tour director-led sightseeing
- › Jet d'Eau, St Pierre Cathedral visit, Old Arsenal & Reformation Wall
- › Lausanne and Montreux excursion
- › Lausanne Tour Director-led sightseeing tour, Château de Chillon visit

#### Day 10 End tour

### **TOUR INVESTMENT:**

**Travelers under 23 years** \$4,040\*

**Travelers 23 and above** \$4,525

\*Sign up by **February 28, 2023**, and use voucher code **2024earlybird** to receive this discounted price!

**INCLUDED:** Round-trip airfare, hotels with private bathroom, breakfast and dinner daily, full-time multi-lingual tour director, guided sightseeing tours and city walks, select attraction visits, Tour Diary



## Supporting documents

This school board packet should be submitted with the following supporting documents:

- › Official price quote
- › Student application
- › Student/parent agreement & release form
- › Explorica's terms & conditions



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591 Camino de la Reina  
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San Diego, CA 92108

1.888.310.7120 | [explorica.com](https://explorica.com)

# **NEW BUSINESS**

## **D. Recommended Approval of Recommended Approval of Second Reading of PRESSPlus Policy Update 110 (30-Day Review)(Approval needed) – Dr. Doss**

- Draft Update: 2:100 Board Member Conflict of Interest; 2:210 Organizational Board of Education Meeting; 2:265 Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Procedure; 4:10 Fiscal and Business Management; 4:140 Waiver of Student Fees; 4:165 Awareness and Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse and Grooming Behaviors; 5:20 Workplace Harassment Prohibited; 5:220 Substitute Teachers; 5:250 Leaves of Absence; 5:280 Duties and Qualification; 5:320 Evaluation; 5:330 Sick Days, Vacation, Holidays, and Leaves; 6:15 School Accountability; 6:220, Bring Your Own Technology (BYOT) Program; Responsible; Use and Conduct; 6:250 Community Resource Persons and Volunteers; 6:255 Assemblies and Ceremonies; 6:260 Complaints About Curriculum, Instructional Materials, and Programs; 6:310 High School Credit for Non-District Experiences; Course Substitutions; Re-Entering Students; 7:190 Student Behavior; 7:250 Student Support Services; 7:285 Anaphylaxis Prevention, Response, and Management Program; 7:290 Suicide and Depression Awareness and Prevention; 7:340 Student Records; 7:50 School Admissions and Student Transfers To and From Non-District Schools; and 7:70 Attendance and Truancy; Draft Update-Rewritten: 5:120 Employee Ethics; Code of Professional Conduct; and Conflict of Interest; Review of Proposed District Edits: 7:345 Use of Educational Technologies; Student Data Privacy and Security; 7:345-AP, E2 Exhibit – Student Data Privacy; Notice to Parents About Educational Technology Vendors

# **NEW BUSINESS**

~~E. Recommended Approval of Thornwood High School HBCU National Band & Orchestra Directors' Consortium Overnight Fieldtrip, Atlanta, GA, March 29-April 2, 2023 – Mr. Holmes (Approval needed)~~

# **NEW BUSINESS**

- F. Recommended Approval of Thornridge High School FCCLA State Leadership Conference Overnight Fieldtrip at BOS Convention Center, Springfield, IL, April 13-15, 2023 – Dr. Moore – (Approval needed)

# **NEW BUSINESS**

~~G. Recommended Approval of Thornwood High School Music in the Parks Bands Festival Overnight Field, Six Flags Great America, Gurnee, IL, April 28-29, 2023 Mr. Holmes (Approval needed)~~

# **NEW BUSINESS**

H. Recommended Approval of Technology Purchases for Special Programs - Mr. Porter (Approval needed)

# **NEW BUSINESS**

- I. Recommended Approval of Barrier Gate Traffic Study - Mr. Horton (Approval needed)

# **NEW BUSINESS**

~~J. Recommended Approval of Districtwide Bus Purchase - Mr.  
Horton (Approval needed)~~

# EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

# **RECONVENE OPEN SESSION NEW BUSINESS (CONTINUED)**

- A. Superintendent's Report – Dr. Nathaniel Cunningham, Jr.
- B. Faculty Association Matters for Board of Education's Consideration – Dr. Cunningham
  - i. School Safety
  - ii. Building Climate

# **ACTION ITEMS FOLLOWING OPEN SESSION**

- A. Possible Action Concerning the 2022-2023 Non-Renewal of Probationary Teachers
- B. Possible Action Concerning the Reduction-in-Force of Dean Position
- C. Possible Action Concerning the Reduction-in-Force of Athletic Director Position

# ADJOURNMENT

Next Regular Meeting

APRIL 12, 2023

Thornton Township 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