

YOUR SCHOOLS

AUGUST 2021

BACK TO SCHOOL Important Dates

August 12th – Teachers Institute Day

August 13th – Teachers Institute Day

**August 16th - First Day for Freshmen
& Sophomores Only**

August 17th – First day of school for all students

September 6th – Labor Day - No School

**Return to In-Person Learning
Fall 2021! Details Inside!**



**Stay Connected at
www.district205.net**

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



**THORNTON TOWNSHIP
DISTRICT
205
HIGH SCHOOLS**

PEACE



CENTER



**OUTLOOK
ACADEMY**



Thornridge



Thornton



Thornwood

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District 205 Board of Education



Ms. Nina Graham
Board President
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Mrs. Annette Whittington
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Mr. Ray Banks
Board Member
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Mr. Albert Butler
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Mr. Stanley Brown
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Mrs. Bernadette Lawrence
Board Member
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Superintendent



Dr. Nathaniel Cunningham, Jr.
District 205 Superintendent

WELCOME BACK

Thornton Township School District 205 is committed to ensuring that our students receive an outstanding education no matter the circumstances. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, we successfully adapted our educational programs to a remote learning format for the 2020-2021 school year. We are prepared and excited to safely return to in-person education for the term beginning in the fall of 2021; we believe that our students will benefit tremendously from being on campus.

Research has shown that the benefits of in-person learning include, but are not limited to:

- Increased student/teacher interaction and students' involvement in academic experiences
- Enhanced ability to assess and address students' educational, emotional, and social needs
- Improved opportunity for students to receive individualized attention
- Reduced time that students spend viewing computer screens

The guidance that we received from and the regulations imposed by the Cook County Department of Public Health, the Illinois Department of Public Health, the Illinois State Board of Education, and the Centers for Disease Control factored greatly into our decision to re-open the District's schools and academic programs. Unfortunately, no one can predict how the COVID-19 pandemic will impact us in the future. We sincerely hope that things will improve. However, due to the fluctuating nature of the situation, School District 205 will continue to take the health of our students, staff, and community very seriously.

Based upon the recommendations and requirements of the health experts, our operational and administrative processes and procedures, and the academic needs of our students, we have formulated a return to school plan. You will find an overview of the key components of the plan in this newsletter. Our goal is always to give you timely and accurate information. To that end, we will regularly post updates on our website (www.district205.net) and social media pages and communicate directly with our students, their parents/caregivers, and our staff. Please note that our plan is fluid. This allows for edits and adjustments as external circumstances and new guidelines emerge.

Your cooperation and understanding are greatly appreciated as we create an educational environment that empowers and enables our students to graduate prepared to enroll in an institute of higher education or a vocational program, enlist in military service, or obtain gainful employment.

We look forward to a safe and successful school year.

Thornton Township District 205 High Schools



SCHOOL BUS SCHEDULE

Will be available August 3, 2021 in PowerSchool.

Please contact your school to receive IDs, valid bus route information, or for general online registration matters.

THORNRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL

TR-Registration@district205.net 708-271-4522

THORNTON TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL

TT-Registration@district205.net 708-225-4113

THORNWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

TW-Registration@district205.net 708-339-7800



GET READY! GET REGISTERED!

The first day of school will be here before you know it, so make sure that your student is ready by completing the District 205 registration process. Register now by going to www.district205.net/domain/414 or by clicking on the QR Code below. To get helpful registration tips, you can watch an instructional video presented by Thornwood student Aaron Adams at <https://thearrow.shutterfly.com/pictures/1259>.

Good news! This year, the registration fee has been waived for all students who register online. If you have any questions, please use the following contact information:

Thornridge High School	TR-Registration@district205.net
Thornton Township High School	TT-Registration@district205.net
	Hood.DeOnte@district205.net or call 708-225-4120
	Brown.Deondra@district205.net or call 708-225-4218
Thornwood High School	TW-Registration@district205.net

WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO REGISTER EARLY. THANK YOU.



**SCAN THE
QR CODE TO
ACCESS ONLINE
REGISTRATION**

HEALTH AND SAFETY IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY

The health and safety of our students, staff, and community are our priority. We have taken all necessary steps to comply with or exceed the guidance and regulations provided by federal, state, and local health authorities. Based on the most current available information, we have developed guidelines that are designed to help minimize the risk of COVID-19 exposure and transmission. **The District's full Health and Safety Plan and Guidance can be found on our website at district205.net.** An overview of the guidelines is below. Everyone is asked to do their part to adhere to and comply with these procedures and all public health regulations.

INDIVIDUAL RESPONSIBILITIES

MASKS

- Bring a mask to school.
- Wear a mask that snugly covers your mouth and nose while on campus or while visiting District facilities.
 - *Exceptions are made when you are dining or if you have a medical condition that prevents you from doing so.*
- Comply with guidelines which prohibit wearing masks with designs that have language or images that may be considered offensive, provocative, disruptive, or could interfere with a positive educational environment.

SOCIAL DISTANCING

- Maintain 6 feet of distance between you and other people whenever possible.
- Follow signs regarding traffic flow in hallways and instructions regarding seating arrangements.

PERSONAL HYGIENE AND HEALTH PRACTICES

- Wash and sanitize your hands frequently.
- Monitor your health.
 - *Be aware of COVID-19 symptoms.*
 - *Quarantine if exposed to COVID-19 or if you are exhibiting symptoms.*
 - *Avoid attending school and school-sponsored events and activities if symptomatic.*
 - *Report COVID-19 exposures, symptoms, and diagnoses when notifying the District of an absence.*

VACCINATED INDIVIDUALS

- Adhere to established guidelines for mask wearing, social distancing, and personal hygiene and health practices.

DISTRICT RESPONSIBILITIES

FACILITIES AND FACILITIES MAINTENANCE

- Take appropriate and timely measures to maintain the health and safety of our students, staff, and community in accordance with federal, state, and local guidance and regulations.
- Prioritize cleaning and disinfecting surfaces where bacteria or viruses may be easily transmitted.
- Utilize enhanced ventilation systems to clean the air.
- Provide sanitizer stations at strategic and convenient locations on District campuses, in facilities, and in office areas.
- Provide Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) where appropriate and necessary.

VISITORS

- Limit the number of visitors to schools, programs, and activities in order to maintain social distancing of students and staff.
- Require visitors to complete a health screening immediately upon entering school buildings and program areas. As part of this screening visitors may have their temperatures taken and be asked to answer questions regarding their COVID-19 status and symptoms.

TRANSPORTATION

- Provide eligible students safe and timely transportation services that comply with public health guidelines.
- Meet the transportation needs of special education students.
- Provide training to school bus drivers on health, safety, and sanitation policies and procedures.

FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICES

- Use a combination of in-school dining and a "grab & go" program for meal distribution.
- Provide a safe, socially distanced area for students and staff to dine.
- Require all food service and support employees to wear face masks and gloves whenever preparing and serving food and cleaning or sanitizing surfaces.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- Cook County Department of Public Health – www.cookcountypublichealth.org
- Illinois Department of Public Health – www.dph.illinois.gov
- Illinois State Board of Education – www.isbe.net
- Illinois High School Association – www.ihsa.org
- Centers for Disease Control – www.cdc.gov

We greatly appreciate your efforts and commitment to helping the District maintain a healthy and safe environment for our students to learn and our educators, staff, and administrators to work.

2021-2022 BELL SCHEDULE

Bell Schedule	Duration	Starts	Ends
First Period	50 MInutes	8:00	8:50
Second Period (Announcements)	55 MInutes	8:55	9:50
Third Period	50 MInutes	9:55	10:45
Fourth Period	30 MInutes	10:50	11:20
Fifth Period	15 MInutes	11:25	11:40
Sixth Period	30 MInutes	11:45	12:15
Seventh Period	15 MInutes	12:20	12:35
Eighth Period	30 MInutes	12:40	1:10
Ninth Period	15 MInutes	1:15	1:30
Tenth Period	30 MInutes	1:34	2:05
Eleventh Period	50 MInutes	2:10	3:00
CP	25 MInutes	3:05	3:30

GETTING A RETURN ON OUR R.I.O.

In financial terms, R.O.I. means a return on investment. This year, School District 205 is anticipating getting a BIG R.O.I. on its R.I.O. RIO is a short-hand reference to our retreat, institute days, and student orientation sessions.

Retreat: District 205 leaders participated in an off-site retreat from June 28 to July 1, 2021, which provided an opportunity for training, information sharing, and strategic planning. The agenda was extensive, and the outcomes from the event will provide the blueprint and foundation for the District's academic and administrative vision for the upcoming school term and beyond.

Institute Days: On August 12 and 13, 2021, District 205 educators, administrators, and staff will collaborate and share tools, resources, and best practices. The overall objective of this event is to develop an academic curriculum and make supportive services available that increase students' engagement and achievement.

Orientation: On August 16, 2021, each District 205 high school will host an extended orientation session. There will be fun activities and interactive informational sessions to help students become comfortable and familiar with the District's plan to have a safe, healthy, and rigorous learning experience. They will also be encouraged to achieve the goal of either enrolling in college or a vocational program, enlisting in military service, or becoming gainfully employed after they graduate.

By presenting and participating in our R.I.O. events and activities, we strive to give District 205 students what they need to be ready and able to excel.

FOR SUPPORT & ASSISTANCE

THORNRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL

Dr. Justin Moore, Principal

moore.justin@district205.net

Ms. Rikeita Harris, Assistant Principal

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Ms. Lynn Atchison,SPED Chair

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Ms. Kimberly Blackwell, Social Worker

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THORNTON HIGH SCHOOL

Mr. Todd Whitaker, Principal

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Mr. Mason Newell, Assistant Principal

newell.mason@district205.net

Ms. Candice Richardson, SPED Chair

richardson.candice@district205.net

Ms. Janell Cox-Bey, Social Worker

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THORNWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

Mr. Don Holmes, Principal

holmes.don@district205.net

Ms. Danielle Jania, SPED Chair

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Ms. Rebecca Boyter, Social Worker

boyter.rebecca@district205.net

Ms. Kelli Loudon, Social Worker

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OUTLOOK ACADEMY

Mr. Steven Valant, Assistant Program Administrator

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Mr. Jason Hill, Social Worker

hill.jason@district205.net

PEACE CENTER

Mr. Tyran Cox-Bey, Program Administrator

cox-bey.tyran@district205.net

Ms. Adrienne Miller, Social Worker

miller.adrienne@district205.net