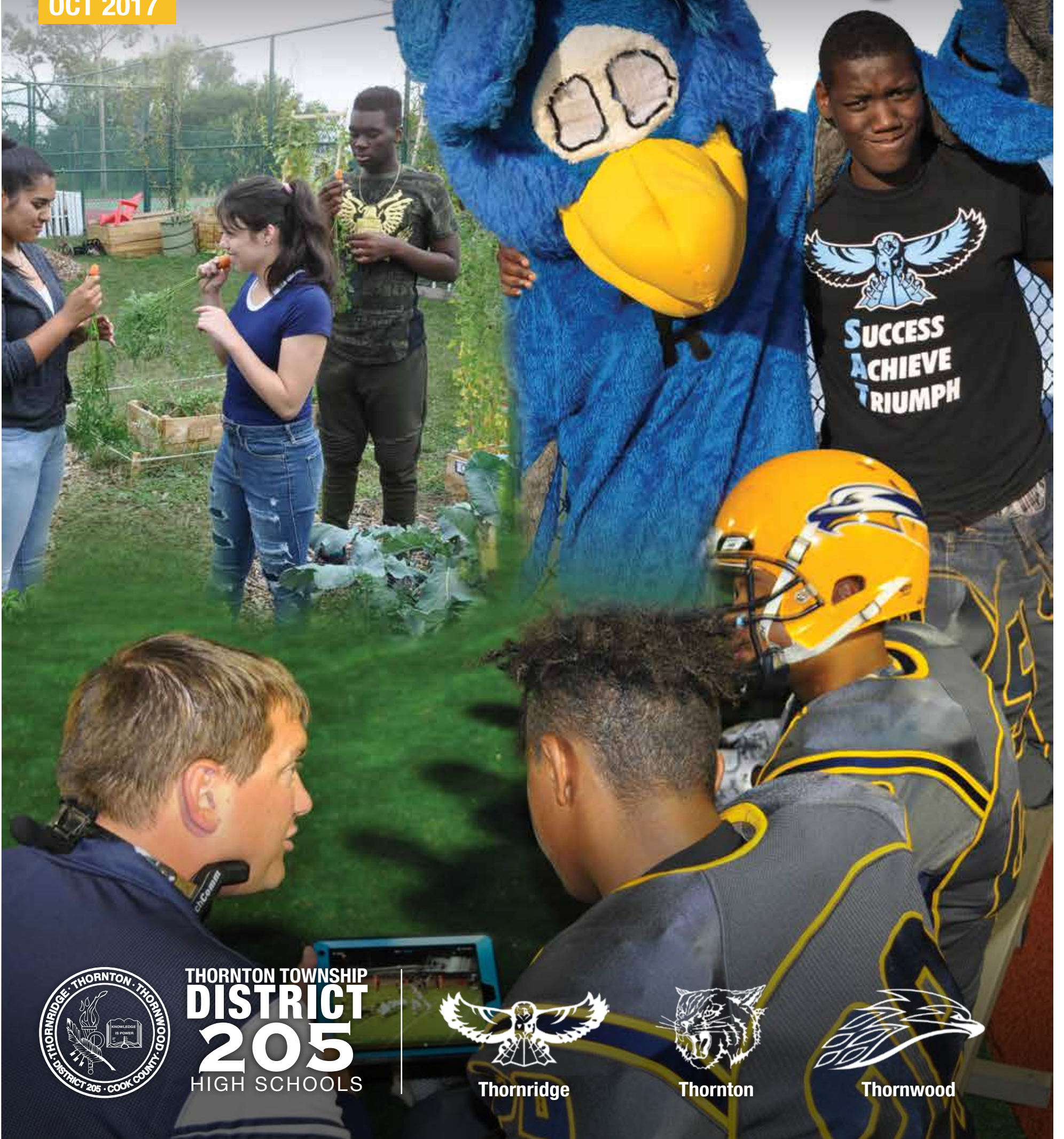


YOUR SCHOOLS

THORNTON TOWNSHIP
HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 205

OCT 2017

Progress Report



THORNTON TOWNSHIP
**DISTRICT
205**
HIGH SCHOOLS



Thornridge



Thornton



Thornwood

A Conversation With The Superintendent



District 205 Superintendent
Dr. Leotis D. Swopes

The current school year is off to a most wonderful beginning!!! It started with the Administrators' Retreat this past June at Starved Rock (IL). The District's Vision, Mission and Core values were revisited as to build upon the Board's established five Goals. This initiative was broadened for two days in August when all teachers returned for Teacher Institute Days commencing the 2016-2017 School Year. We have welcomed a newly designed administrative structure with advent of our Division Leaders. These persons are a group of motivated and specialized content area professionals. They work directly under the building principals and specific with content area teachers to enhance instruction by analyzing data, monitoring academic patterns and providing professional development specific to our students' needs while supporting and holding teachers to high expectations.



Motunrola Adebogun
President - Student Board
of Education

I'm proud to present members of the Student Board of Education, serving in the 2017-2018 school year. The Student Board of Education is an amazing opportunity for students to play an active role in their school, district, and community. More than fellow board members, this diverse collection of students from all three district schools are my friends. I'm honored to both lead and serve this amazing group of civic-minded, resilient, committed, and super smart scholars. Because of them, I'm a better student, and collaborating partner in the work and challenges we face together.

Prior to joining the Board, I'd always known that I wanted to do something more with my time in high school - something that truly makes a difference. That something more turned out to be serving my fellow students, and I'm extremely grateful to have the opportunity to be a part of something bigger than myself.

What do you believe is one of the biggest obstacles facing District 205 Students?

I think one of the biggest issues concerning the District is that not all of the students recognize their full potential. District 205 is predominantly populated with minority students. Given years of systematic oppression against minorities, particularly in the area of education, many minority students do not receive the same education as other students. Aware of this academic divide, minority students often underestimate themselves. In my high school, I see many teachers, counselors, and administrators doing their best to tap into the potential of my fellow peers. I know their potential and teachers know their potential, but they don't recognize it for themselves.

Why is education important to you?

Not everyone in the world - especially girls - has to opportunity to be educated. Many people have lost their lives fighting for the right to get an education. I know that we are fortunate, and don't take the ability to attend school lightly or for granted.

The District conducted a Curriculum Audit that was completed last Spring. The Audit provides a roadmap toward addressing the needs of our District related to our course of study, instructional practices and instructional leadership. It also provides the District with Best Practices for monitoring the planned, taught and tested curriculum in the Thornton Township High School District 205. It (The Curriculum Audit) is a five-year plan designed around the District's program of teaching and learning that will be use to tie our adult actions to our students' achievement. For no other reason, this is exciting and the expectations high!!!

Parents and stakeholders may have noticed that there are capitol/construction projects going-on on the outside and inside of our schools over the summer. Please go to our website at District205.net to get up-to-date and transparent information on costs, scope and nature of projects that are occurring.

Our District finances are stable and with the new funding formula proposed by our legislature in Springfield, we tend

to fare positively from what has been proposed. Therefore our district funding levels should remain unaffected for the first year of the new proposed sources. However, beyond that initial year, there may be challenges. We will continue to raise our voices to protect what we desire for our children for all legislators and voters to hear.

I encourage you to visit our schools, support our children and speak to a teacher, administrator or support personnel. Let us hear your voice, be a part of your school. Join in on this exciting time in our district (Thornton Township High School District 205).

I have led the District for three years and I believe it is better now than it was when I started! June 30, 2018 my contract ends and I have informed the school board that I plan to retire, again!!! You are in good hands!!!

What universities are you interested in attending, and why?

There are a number schools I'm considering, but The University of Chicago is one of my top choices. Stamped around the huge campus, its Latin motto translates "where knowledge is gained, life is enhanced" - and I relate to that belief. The school also emphasizes research, and offers students the opportunity to work on various research projects.

Favorite quote?

"You only live once, but if you do it right, once is enough" Mae West

What career are you interested in pursuing?

I would like to pursue a career in Obstetrics. I love children and would like to reform certain aspects of maternity care for women in this country. Currently in the United States, not every expecting mother can afford to see an obstetrician as often as is necessary - and many cannot afford treatments that could potentially prevent

future illnesses in their unborn child. In 2017, this honestly should not be the case. Every expectant mother and unborn child deserves the best care the country has to offer, regardless of their ability to pay.

If you could pick anyone to have lunch with, who would it be and why?

Former President Barack Obama. He is honestly such an amazing, interesting, and down to earth president. I'd want to ask him about his journey to the White House, and about the moment he knew he wanted to change this country using the most prestigious position imaginable.

What do you want your legacy to be?

My legacy doesn't have to be extravagant. Every single person in the world doesn't have to know my name, and I don't need to have been the richest person in the world. I just want to positively change lives.

MISSION STATEMENT

To use our leadership positions to represent District 205 students, improve our schools, and give back to the community. We will do this by providing quality programs and acting as a sounding board to the superintendent and Board of Education.

VISION

With humility, humbleness, and hard work, the Student Board of Education will represent and serve our peers, schools, and community. By using our leadership skills, we will work to ensure that all students receive a high quality, well-rounded high school experience.



Board Member Spotlight



Board President
Nina Graham

How did you become involved with District 205 and The Board of Education?

I have been a resident of District 205 for more than 30 years, and was an educator in West-Harvey School District 147 for more than 33 years. My children and grandchildren all attended elementary school in District

150, and high school in District 205. I have always been connected to, and involved with the schools and their activities. I have a master's degree in curriculum and instruction, and served on the board of District 150 for 16 years. While serving on that board, I gained a wealth of knowledge and experience on how school systems work and best practices. My desire is, and has always been to serve our students and surrounding communities. I believed that my experience as a teacher, board member and educational background would be an asset to the students and families of District 205.

What makes the mission and vision of District 205 relevant to the students it serves?

Our mission statement includes an array of educational values, and intentionally declares that we put students first. Our goal as a group is to partner with the superintendent and district administrators to provide exposure and opportunities for students to become lifelong learners, while connecting with family and the school community. Our core values are powerful declarations: Pride, Integrity, Responsiveness, High Expectations with Support and Commitment to Excellence. Our vision is to prepare all students for college and career success, entering society as prepared, productive, global citizens. Ensuring that all students have access to a quality education, we intend to deliver on these promises.

What are positive things that stand out most about 205?

One of the most unique features about our district is Outlook Academy – a program that offers students a second chance to earn their high school diplomas. For these students, a high school diploma not only restores pride and self-esteem, but it provides a sense of accomplishment and reaffirms that college is an attainable goal. Our district is also financially stable, with a balanced budget. Through capital improvement



funds, we are continuously refining our facilities to provide a safe environment conducive for high quality teaching and learning.

What are the District's top priorities in the next several years?

As we focus on preparing students for successful careers, our goal is to increase student achievement in STEM and STEAM categories. Technology is a high priority, but extremely expensive. Research shows that many current and future job opportunities will require advanced technical expertise. We understand the importance of ensuring students can touch technology daily, and diligently working to equip schools with updated digital tools and access. Developing capacity in problem solving, data analysis and technology are critical to student success. The subjects we teach today will ensure our students are prepared for tomorrow's opportunities.

What do you see as board's challenges?

Still working to shape this language.

Lack of funding from a state and federal level. For example, technology is very expensive, being able to provide each student with a computer, or chromebook is financially challenging. We do have some but not enough. However we are diligently trying to close the gap. The cost of technology creates more challenges.

When thinking about District 205, what will success look like to you?

Success has been long standing in this district. I want to continue build and enhance our success stories - to see every student graduate, increase parental involvement, build stronger relationships, and become the sustainable, sturdy bridge that connects schools and communities.

What is needed from staff to ensure the organization's success?

The newly created role of Division Leader will be instrumental in accelerating student achievement by working in partnership with teachers. The primary role of division leaders is to support teachers in their instructional planning. An investment in our teachers will yield high returns in student accomplishments. Understanding that change is difficult, it is also necessary for advancement. We fully support and embrace division leaders to implement programmatic changes that will elevate each student's academic experience.

What motivates you?

I am motivated by the growing success that I see in our students. I am inspired and encouraged when students come to school board meetings and express their gratitude to teachers, parents, and to the board of education for opportunities they are given allowing them to excel in planning their careers. We must put forth every effort to provide a quality education to every student. It motivates me to be a part of their lives.

Thornton

H I G H S C H O O L



Wildcat International Bacclaireate (IB) Programme Catches Fire!



Principal Tony Ratliff

Wildcat International Bacclaireate (IB) Programme Catches Fire!

The Wildcat IB Programme under the direction of coordinator and Wildcat Alumni Brad Ablin has blazed the Chicagoland area with our first testing results. Students undergo an extremely rigorous curriculum that includes 300 hours of Creativity, Activity, and Service hours. In addition, the students are required to complete a 4000 word essay to be graded by designated IB Programme officials. The courses were Language and Literature, History of the Americas, Psychology, Physics, Math Studies, Theory of Knowledge, and either French or Spanish. Our Wildcat Students stunned the south Chicago Suburbs by 8 students earning the IB Diploma, which is 38% of all diploma students! Thornton had 2 other students that missed the mark by only 1 point. However, through the hard work of our students, 68% of all IB students earned college credit and 76% of all IB Diploma students earned college credit! Moreover, 6 of our Wildcat IB Juniors took the Advance Placement (AP) exam for Psychology, and 5 of them scored high enough to earn college credit! Great Job Wildcats!



Thornton Principal Receives Principal of the Year Award for the 2016-2017 South Cook County Region



Mr. Ratliff receiving award at the Board meeting

Principal Tony Ratliff was presented with the Principal of the Year Award for the 16-17 school year of the South Cook County Region, during the September 2017 school board meeting held at Thornridge High School. Principal Ratliff stated that the award is a testament to the greatness of the Wildcat Staff, past and present, and gives credit for the award to the best students and parent corps, as well as the great support from local community leaders.

Thornton Township High School 2017 Graduating Class

College & Career Counselor Report

There were a total of 376 Thornton High School Seniors who received a diploma on May 21, 2017 for completing all of the requirements for graduation as set by the Thornton Township District Board of Education and the State of Illinois. We are especially proud that our seniors were offered \$9,243,424.00 in Scholarships and including Financial Aid a grand total of \$19,068,204.00 was offered to further their education. Wildcats also had 11 Illinois State Scholars, 9 Ingalls Scholarship winners and 3 Fuch's Lubricants Frank Klienman Scholars.

Now for the Post-High School Plans, of the 376 Wildcat Graduates in the Class of 2017, 100% of them completed a post high school plan in the College & Career Center. Their post-secondary plans are as follows:

- 144, or 38% will attend a four-year university
- 203, or 53% will attend a two-year college including South Suburban College
- 7 or 2% will enlist in a branch of the Armed Forces
- 19 or 5% will enter the workforce
- 4 or 1% will enter a trade school

We are very proud that 100% our Wildcat Class of 2017 graduates had an educational plan for their future and we are confident that they will continue to make TTHS and District 205 proud of them in their future endeavors.

Thornton Wildcats cut ribbon for new stadium; school districts given credit

By Patricia Muhammad



Over the Labor Day weekend, Thornton High School Wildcats Football team and local school board districts 147 and 205 had much to celebrate, including a ribbon-cutting ceremony and a colossal win against Kenwood Academy, defeating Kenwood with a 54-6 victory. "The ribbon-cutting ceremony is symbolic. The real substance is the work and the leadership of the school board to provide the best for our community. Our

stadium was in much need of a facelift. Our children, our parents, and our community deserve the best and today; this is evidence that they receive the best. I want to thank the school board for their leadership and for making the decision that they have made. The beautification of this stadium will last for a lifetime,” said Tony Ratliff, principal for Thornton High School.

Area weather was perfect for the Sept. 2nd ribbon-cutting event and football game. The Thornton High School Administration, band, school district presidents, coaches, and others gathered on the new track to celebrate the opening of the bright, shiny stadium. The silver bleachers filled with Wildcat fans sat on the home team, wearing purple and white paraphernalia and a few Kenwood Academy fans sat on the opposing side. Attendees waited patiently in the 74 degrees weather, waiting for the second game of the year to begin.

According to Principal Ratliff, the rebuilding efforts for the stadium started well over a year ago, back in May 2016. Ratliff also stated that the stadium also serves as a beacon of hope for more rebuilding efforts in and around the Harvey community. Born and raised in Harvey, Mr. Ratliff said, “Harvey is a beautiful place. I grew up in Harvey. If there were any change to Harvey, people did it. People built up Harvey; people changed it, and people are going to bring it back. Rebuilding the stadium is the network and apparatus to bring it back.”

Charwana Morgan, a life-long Harvey resident and Parent Coordinator for Thornton High School, stated that the new stadium will draw parents’ support and involvement in school activities. “I believe that the new stadium beautifies the community. It will cause more parents to come out and support their children; because as we know, parental involvement makes a difference in every child’s success.”

Local school board presidents showed up to witness the ribbon-cutting ceremony. Several of them were formal teachers. Bonnie Raterre, School Board President, District 147; Maggie Hudson-Walker, School Board President, District 147 (includes West Harvey and Dixmoor); Nina Graham, School Board President, District 205, all expressed feelings of elation because of their association with school districts 147 and 205.

“I was a teacher in School District 147 for 33 years,” said Mrs. Graham, who was one of the former teachers. “Some of the kids who went to Rosa Park School are in Thornton Township. They’re here. I get so emotional with what is happening to our kids, and this newly renovated facility is just awesome. ‘Children First.’ Let’s keep children first. That is our motto. I am so proud and so happy to see what is happening here today,” Mrs. Graham stated.

Principal Ratliff expressed school pride as he spoke highly of Thornton Township High School. He said, “I am proud to know that as a principal of Thornton High School, our school represents the diamond or the jewel of Harvey, Illinois, and the surrounding communities. So, whenever somebody passes by Thornton Township High School, they see a slice of heaven. They see beautification that’s here. Thornton Township High School in Harvey, Illinois is still alive,” Mr. Ratliff said.

According to Wikipedia, Thornton High School built in 1898 is the home of several NFL players including Barry Gardner, (Linebacker for the Philadelphia Eagles); Napoleon Harris (Linebacker for the Minnesota Vikings); and Antwaan Randle El (Wide Receiver for the Pittsburgh Steelers and Washington Red Skins); among other players.

Thornton IB Information:

The International Baccalaureate Program (IB) is a high school program that is a highly respected college prep curriculum. IB is open to Juniors and Seniors only. The

selection of students to be a part of the IB Program begins in February of the Junior year. The IB program encourages students to think broadly, beyond the boundaries of their communities, and to see themselves as members of a global society. It allows students to receive a well-rounded world view, while also giving them a rigorous educational experience that allows them to earn college credit while still in high school. IB is now in its 3rd year of educating students at Thornton. This past May our first group of graduating IB students took IB exams for college credit with tremendous success! 8 students received the prestigious IB Diploma awarded to students for outstanding academic achievement across the program. In addition, 19 students earned college credit for their scores on the IB exams. Students received college credit on 68 total exams, totaling over 200 college credit hours for these students. These students also earned millions of dollars in scholarship money. In addition to the rigorous academic program, students are required to write an intensive 4000 word research essay and complete hours in Creativity, Activity, and Community Service. This works to mold the students into well-rounded individuals. For more information about the International Baccalaureate Program, contact IB Coordinator Brad Ablin at 708-225-4025 or email at ablin.bradley@district205.net

Thornton Township High School's Daycare Program Keeps Teens in School

Director Angie James is very proud of the superb job ICC does with the children—and teens parents—in its care. Clearly teacher Cynthia Wilson adds the magic touch to professional care—the infants were alert and peaceful.

By Erin Nauta



Tucked away on the campus of Thornton Township High School is the ICC—Infant Care Center. Inside are laughing, happy toddlers and content babies being cared for by patient, skilled childcare workers. For each child in the daycare, a teenager is able to stay in school.

ICC is a licensed professional daycare center. All childcare workers are staff, registered with the Illinois Gateways Professional Development System. They have training from Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) with yearly updates, and DCFS comes out for yearly inspections. All staff are CPR certified. Each room has a teacher and an aide; two aides for the infant room. The center is outfitted with a fully equipped nursery, classrooms, playroom, kitchen, library, and offices. Each classroom has a schedule, with structured activities and nap times. The center is in the process of adding a lending library of books and hands-on activity toys for families to check out, and is currently accepting book donations. The center is housed in a former athletic facility, which is solid, but snug; there are plans to move into a more spacious facility in a couple of years.

The facility hours are coordinated to school hours, opening at 6:30 am and closing at 3 pm. A bus goes to the teens’ homes, picks up the parents and children, and brings them to the ICC facility, where it waits for the parents to settle their children into their rooms. Sometimes ICC has breakfast waiting for the parents.

The bus then takes the parents to their respective schools. During the day, the babies get 2 snacks a day as well as lunch. There are indoor and outdoor play areas, so the kids get exercise, rain or shine. In nice weather, little ones get a stroller ride outdoors. At the end of the day, the bus collects the parents from school, brings them back to ICC for their babies, and takes them home. The bus is already outfitted with infant and child car seats so the parents don’t have to bring them. In addition to the daily routine, agencies such as Family Enrichment organize activities and field trips for the mothers and babies, and on a recent family field trip, the grandparents came as well. The center encourages the involvement of both parents, and grandparents as well.

Recruitment for the program includes information tables at the high schools during orientation to promote ICC. There’s an ICC open house so students can take a tour of the facility. During the school year, campus nurses and counselors will refer students to ICC. During the summer, ICC staff go to doctor’s offices, WIC offices, and into the neighborhoods, posting fliers about the program and encouraging professionals to refer teen parents. Staff even strike up conversations with pregnant teens they meet and tell them about the program. Most students are referred while still pregnant, though the center accepts toddlers up to three years old. There’s an application process and the teens are invited to come visit the facility. When the baby is six weeks old, it can enter the program.



Founded in 1985, the program has been in existence for 32 years. A true pioneer, ICC was the first center of its kind in the state of Illinois. The center’s population of babies goes up and down as older babies leave and new infants come in, but on the whole, the number of babies has remained fairly constant through the years. Though it’s a daycare center, it’s very much about the parents as well. As the center has identified needs, it has added services. The program helps the teen parents to keep up with baby health care and immunizations. At times, when Thornton HS high school has offered childcare classes, students have been able to come into the center to help with the children, for credit. There is an annual reading competition for parents and grandparents to read to their babies, with awards presented at a Family Reading Night in November. The center comes up with family events throughout the year, and there’s a special effort made to involve fathers and grandfathers. As graduation nears, ICC helps the teens transition into post-school life with career and college workshops.

ICC serves teen parents not only from Thornton HS, but also Thornwood HS, Thornridge HS, Outlook Academy, AFL in Riverdale, Country Club Hills Tech and Trade, and South Suburban College. The center accepts children between the ages 6 weeks to 3 years old. Director Angie James, previously a classroom teacher, came to ICC nearly two years ago. She has found it very rewarding; for every child in ICC, a student has the opportunity to graduate rather than drop out. James shares that of four recent graduates, two are in college, while two others have started working. She wants teens to know that just because they’ve become parents, doesn’t mean their education has to come to an end. ICC is here to help! For more information, call 708-225-4036 or email James. Angie@district205.net.

Thornwood

H I G H S C H O O L



NHS Induction

By ????????????????



District 205 Community, greetings from Wildcat Country!

On Thursday, September 21st, Thornwood held our annual National Honor Society (NHS) induction, in which 44 students were inducted into our organization. In order to be eligible to apply for the Thornwood NHS, a student must have maintained a 3.25 cumulative GPA throughout their years at Thornwood. Only Juniors and Seniors are considered for application.

A student must complete an application outlining their leadership, school involvement and community service along with two teacher recommendation forms. The Thornwood NHS Faculty Council reviews each of the applicants' materials, evaluating materials for evidence of the students' achievements in the areas of scholarship, leadership, service and character. These four qualities are the cardinal pillars of the National Honor Society Organization across the country. Students who have proven themselves in these four areas are selected to be inducted.

Once inducted, students must maintain their scholarship level with a 3.25 GPA as well as continue to hold themselves in highly esteemed character without discipline issues. Additionally, NHS members continue to serve their school and community by serving at least 30 hours per year that they are a member of the organization. Last year, the Thornwood NHS served over 2,000 hours, with many members exceeding 50 and 100 hours individually. National Honor Society also serves together with three Life Source blood drives per year as well as other service events.



- Justin Abram
- Antavia Adams
- Lunden Alexander
- Jakobe Ballard
- Sierra Brewer
- Rafael Camacho
- Kellie Cash
- Franese Coupet
- Abraham Cruz
- Genae England
- Jesus Esquivel
- Jayla Ford
- Michael Gaston
- Cyara Green
- E'Monty Glover
- Jaden Gordon
- Kamiah Hill
- Kendall Hoofe
- Sharaylynn Horton
- Elijah Hunt
- Brianna Ingram
- Keeley Lay
- Enihua Matthews
- Andrea Martin
- Ariana Martin
- Khasira Martin
- Maia Moore
- Jevon Muldrow
- Nayeli Munoz
- Edgar Nazario
- Kyndall Neeland
- Kamryn Nelson
- Emmanuella Nwokenkwo
- Chenekiwa Peterson
- Kierra Reeves
- Cesar Santillan
- Nakaya Short
- Nyia Sissac
- Miles Somerville
- Jada Thomas
- Faith Ware
- Keshawn Wright
- Marissa Villanueva
- Zainab Yusuff-Akinbo



football



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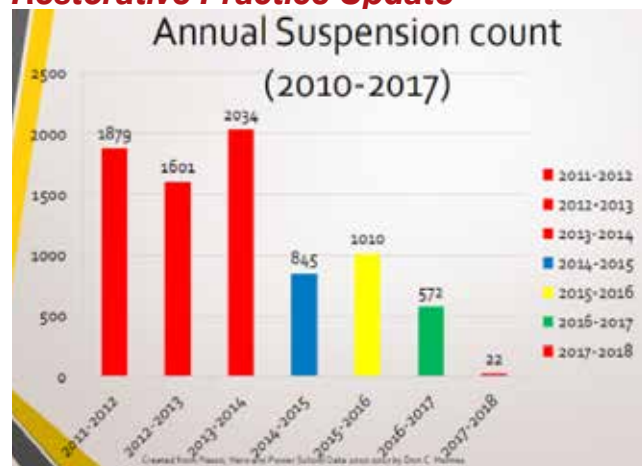
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Under the disciplinary guidance of Assistant Principal Holmes with interventions implemented by a talented dean team consisting of; Mrs. Griggs, Mr. Gonzalez, Mrs. Hay and Ms. Jones, Thornwood High School continues to expand the use of Restorative Practices. As a result, we continue to experience a reduction in Out of School Suspensions, and have totally eradicated the use of In School Suspensions. It is important to mention that the majority of our teachers have bought in to this paradigm shift and themselves are implementing more restorative practices within the classroom itself. With an overall 72% reduction in Out of School suspensions from 2013- 2017, we are confident in forecasting another 50% reduction in Out of School Suspensions for this 2017-2018 school year. Through the implementation of a Reset Room, which is a one period consequence for non-egregious rule infractions that focuses on de-escalation, reflection, re-teaching, rehearsing, and repairing relationships, we have been able to totally eradicate the use of the punitive In School Suspension model, and have combined elements of the personal, academic, and therapeutic Reset models. Our Peace circle trained staff consisting of Ms. Rucker and Mr. Sanders, have really worked hard with our students to help redirect their behavior, accept accountability, and work to repair relationships.



We will continue to monitor and provide updates of this data. Restorative interventions like the Reset Room, Loss of Privilege, Creating Positive Relationships (CPR) and Assistant Principal Holmes' home visits have helped us to create a climate conducive for teaching, learning, goal setting and celebrating school spirit. As we work to continue shifting the paradigm we look forward to the continued open lines of communication and support from our parents and the community at large. We appreciate the opportunity to make a difference and understand that only **Together We Will...SUCCEED!**

Discipline at TWHS: Restorative Practice Update



Thus far, the data shows that the Reset Room, our restorative practice that has replaced In School Suspensions, has yielded overwhelmingly positive results. As of 9/29/17, the supervisors have held over 120 interventions. The supervisors have also moderated a few peace circles, helping to resolve issues among students that may have led to threats or even violence. Had the reset interventions been In School Suspensions as past precedent would dictate, assigned students would've missed out on approximately 720 hours of classroom instructional time, in periods outside of classes where the initial rule infraction occurred.



Thornridge

H I G H S C H O O L



By Adrienne Martinez

AVID Color Run for College - The Race to Turn Dreams into Realty



Principal Ebonie Williams

AVID - Advancement Via Individual Determination - is a bold declaration to close the achievement gap by preparing all students for college readiness and success in a global society. As educators, we use the classroom and AVID principles to teach students how to analyze data, view the world from different perspectives, and fully develop critical thinking skills. Our reward is witnessing them walk across the graduation stage, knowing that we were a bridge to their destination of higher learning.



The AVID Color Run for College is an annual fundraiser that provides financial support for District 205 students attending college - with every dollar raised going directly to students in the form of scholarships.

Imani Burns was awarded the AVID scholarship last year, and shares why it made a difference in her journey: "I struggled a lot my senior year and really questioned whether or not I was cut out for college. I just wasn't sure I could make it. In April, I took a chance and applied for the AVID scholarship. I really didn't think I had a chance to win, but I applied anyway. When I was presented with

the AVID scholarship at the awards banquet, I couldn't believe it. I was in shock! I will tell you - winning that AVID scholarship was the extra boost I needed. If all of my teachers believed in me, then it was time to start believing in myself. No, the scholarship is not a full ride or anything like that, but what it means to the people who receive it is so much more than any dollar amount. Even now, it's a huge motivator. Days that I struggle, I remember winning that scholarship. Without it, I wouldn't be here. And that keeps me pushing through. Thank you, from the bottom of my heart, for believing in me and helping me make my college dreams a reality."

AVID's Color Run for College gives the entire community the opportunity to come together and show our students that we support them - students like Imani, who thrive knowing that we believe in their dreams. In addition to parents and teachers, we appreciate the generous donations of local businesses that are our scholarship partners, including Walgreens, Fairway Foods, and Jewel. We also value the commitment and pledge of village officials like Frank Zuccarelli, Supervisor of Thornton Township; the Dolton Park District; and Mayor Riley Rogers.

Thank you for helping us and make an investment in the future of our students. Students like Imani, and every District 205 student like her - who dreams of going to college.





Parent First Meeting

Good Evening TR Parents /Guardians, and Staff,

I want to thank all of you that were able to join Principal Williams and I at our 1st parent meeting on September 12, 2017. Our agenda at this meeting was as follows:

- School – Parent Compact – which outlines how the parents, staff, and the students will share responsibility for student academic achievement and parents will build and develop a partnership that will help student achieve the State's high standards.

- 2017 – 2018 Parent Workshops and up coming meeting

1. October 10, 2017 Cyber Bullying
2. November 14, 2017 Progress On the Go (Financial Planning)
3. December 12, 2017 Holiday Celebration
4. January 9, 2018 How to get teen motivated for school/ learning

5. February 13, 2018 Tax Mobile
6. March 12, 2018 SUGGESTIONS?????
7. April 10, 2018 (Tentative) Workshop for Juniors to prepare for college
8. May 8, 2018 Annual end of year evaluation. Parents meeting to discuss school improvements/concerns
 - AVID Color Run – The color run/walk features a designated 3.1-mile course. There is a celebratory color toss at the beginning of the race. During the race, participants' are doused with color at various color stations; you also have the options to run/walk without color. This is a GREAT fund raising event sponsored by Ms. Martinez, AVID Coordinator that gives TR Seniors an opportunity to receive scholarship money to help them pay for college. The cost is \$20.00 before September 16th and \$30 after September 16th – 30th. If you cannot participate in this event, Please consider sponsoring a student at TR. The event take place on Saturday September 30, 2017 @ 10:00am PROMPLY RAIN OR SHINE at Thornridge High School!!! 708

271-4680

- Real Estate Assessed Valuation Appeal Forms – There are several location where you can submit appeal for your property taxes, please contact Thornton Township in South Holland for further information & deadline date.
- We discussed other workshop regarding IEP'S and preparing in coming freshman/parents with High School dress code etc.

In conclusion, if you have any questions regarding our first parent meeting or any up coming events or if you want to add your ideas, please feel free to email me at stith.andrea@district205.net. Have a wonderful Evening and I look forward to seeing you at our next meeting October 10, 2017!

ANDREA STITH (Parent Coordinator) @ TR