

## August 2025

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The 2025-26 school year will soon be upon us, and the Thayer Academy Parent Association (TAPA) welcomes both new and returning families to Thayer Academy.

TAPA is all about community and we couldn't be happier to start this school year together! Last year, TAPA introduced the new role of grade-specific class parents/guardians. Class parents/guardians played an important part in fostering an inclusive community for all Thayer families. We are looking for volunteers in grades 5 and 6 to share general TAPA communications, work with the TAPA Board to offer support and assistance when requested, and plan social events for parents and guardians to enhance community. If you're interested in becoming a class parent/guardian, please contact TAPA President Caroline Kuhlman P '25, '28 or TAPA Vice President Rebecca Baker P '28 to learn more about the role

Below, please find some details about what TAPA is, what TAPA does, and how you and your family can get involved. We look forward to seeing you soon.

### What is TAPA?

- TAPA is the Thayer Academy Parent Association, which sponsors community-building activities and supports school initiatives.

### Who belongs to TAPA?

- YOU! As a Thayer parent or guardian, you are automatically a member of TAPA. We encourage you to become active at Thayer through the various volunteer opportunities that are available throughout the year.

### What does TAPA do?

TAPA supports numerous annual events and ongoing activities, including:

- ADMISSIONS EVENTS
- BOOK CLUB
- COFFEES WITH THAYER ADMINISTRATORS
- FACULTY/STAFF APPRECIATION EVENTS
- HOMECOMING
- 8TH GRADE CLASS DINNER
- PARENT/GUARDIAN AFFINITY GROUPS
- PARENT/GUARDIAN ATHLETICS COUNCIL SPIRIT EVENTS
- PRE-PROM PHOTOS AND PROM TROLLEY TRANSPORTATION
- SENIOR CLASS DINNER (THE LAST HURRAH!)
- SENIOR COMMUNITY SERVICE SCHOLARSHIPS
- SENIOR EXPERIENCE DAY
- SENIORFEST

These events would not happen without the tremendous contributions of time and energy from parent and guardian volunteers as well as their financial support.

### How can you get involved?

- **Volunteer!** Volunteering to help organize, operate, or host a TAPA event is a great way to meet other parents and guardians (as well as faculty members) while providing the invaluable help we need to support our school.  
[THAYER.ORG/VOLUNTEER](https://thayer.org/volunteer)
- **Participate!** Attending TAPA meetings and events is not only enjoyable and informative, but it also serves the larger purpose of continually strengthening our community. We will kick off this year with our first coffee followed by social time designed to foster community spirit.

You will receive an email shortly with links to TAPA volunteer opportunities. In addition, you can visit the Parents section of the website at [THAYER.ORG/PARENTS](https://thayer.org/parents) and click "Thayer Academy Parent Association." You'll find a link to volunteer opportunities and can sign up right away!

Again, welcome to a new school year at Thayer! We look forward to seeing you this fall and on campus soon!

Sincerely,

Caroline Kuhlman P '25, '28  
TAPA PRESIDENT

**2025-26 Save the Dates!**



**TAPA 2025-26 Coffees & Meetings**

- **School Year Kickoff Coffee**  
Presentations by Head of School & other administrators  
▶ **FRI, SEP 5, 2025**  
Time: 8:15 - 9:15 A.M.  
📍 Center for the Arts (CFA) Lobby
- **Upper School Coffee**  
▶ **WED, SEP 17, 2025**  
Time: 8:15 - 9:15 a.m.  
📍 CFA Lobby
- **Middle School Coffee**  
w/ Middle School Director Galen Hamann P '31  
▶ **WED, SEP 24, 2025**  
Time: 8:15 - 9:15 a.m.  
📍 Middle School Forum



**Thayer 2025-26 Community Events**

- **Homecoming**  
▶ **SEPT 20, 2025**
- **Founders Day: A Day of Giving**  
▶ **FEB 3, 2026**
- **“The Last Hurrah!” Senior Class Dinner**  
▶ **APRIL 30, 2026**
- **All-School Faculty & Staff Appreciation Lunch**  
▶ **MAY 6, 2026**
- **30th Annual General’s Open Golf Tournament, Tennis Event & Cocktail Reception**  
▶ **MAY 11, 2026**
- **8th Grade Class Dinner**  
▶ **MAY 14, 2026**

**Have a question?**  
Please contact us at [tapa@thayer.org](mailto:tapa@thayer.org)

Volunteer opportunities available for all events:  
[www.thayer.org/volunteer](http://www.thayer.org/volunteer)

**2025-26 TAPA Leadership**

**TAPA President**  
Caroline Kuhlman P '25, '28

**TAPA Vice President**  
Rebecca Baker P '28

**TAPA Treasurer**  
Sandi Petri P '30, '30

**TAPA Secretary**  
Sarah Torok P '30

**Middle School TAPA President**  
Kate Herbst P '31

**Middle School TAPA Vice President**  
Jen McGuirl P '26, '29, '30

**Middle School TAPA Secretary**  
Sara Torok P '30

**Middle School Engagement & Belonging Coordinator**  
Ophelia Ardayfio P '27, '30

**Engagement & Belonging Co-Coordinators**  
Dasan Harrington P '27  
Faith Patterson P '26

**Volunteer Coordinators**  
Laura Query P '29  
Amanda Smallwood P '29, '31

**Parent Athletics Council (PAC) Coordinator**  
Kate Bingham P '27