

Thoreau Park

Elementary School

August 2026

BELIEF STATEMENT

At Thoreau Park, we believe it is our mission to increase student achievement and social-emotional health through student-centered instruction, positive family-school partnerships, and providing a safe learning climate.

WELCOME BACK

Welcome, Thoreau Park families, to the 2026–2027 school year!

I am incredibly excited and honored to introduce myself as your new, proud Principal. As a graduate of Parma City Schools, it is especially meaningful to have the opportunity to continue serving the community that helped shape me. After spending the past 14 years at Pleasant Valley Elementary, I am thrilled to begin this new chapter with everyone at Thoreau Park.

Throughout my career, I have had the privilege of serving students in a variety of roles, including as a fourth-grade teacher, intervention specialist, and second-grade STEM teacher. Five years ago, I transitioned into the role of Dean of Students, where I developed an even deeper appreciation for building relationships with students, families, and staff while supporting the academic, social, and emotional growth of each and every child.

I am also happy to introduce our Dean of Students, Ms. Kira Karabanovs. Kira has been in the dean role for more than five years and brings extensive experience with PBIS, attendance initiatives, and student support. We had the opportunity to work side by side last year at Pleasant Valley, and I couldn't be more excited to continue our partnership.

I look forward to becoming part of the Thoreau Park community, partnering with our incredible staff and families, and getting to know each of you. Together, we will create a welcoming, supportive environment where every student feels valued, challenged, and inspired to succeed.

I can't wait to meet you all very soon and begin what I know will be an amazing school year.

Sincerely,
Ms. Kokely
kokelya@parmacityschools.org

IMPORTANT LINKS

- PCSD Calendar
- RWB (Encore) Calendar
- Arrival & Dismissal Guide
- School Supply List
- PCSD Parent/Student Handbook
- Thoreau Park Calendar

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Class Lists Posted (Fri. 8/21 at 5pm)
- Open House (Mon. 8/24)
- First Day Grades 1-4 (Tue. 8/25)
- Kindergarten Readiness Assessments (Tue. 8/25 through Thurs. 8/27)
- Kindergarten Orientation A-L (Fri. 8/28)
- Kindergarten Orientation M-Z (Mon. 8/31)
- First Day all Kindergarten (Tue. 9/1)
- Labor Day-NO SCHOOL (Mon. 9/7)



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OPEN HOUSE

I hope everyone is able to attend our annual Open House on Monday, 8/24. In order to minimize traffic, we do ask that families with last names A-L attend from 5:00-6:00 and last names M-Z from 6:15-7:15.

Open House is an opportunity to see your child's classrooms, meet teachers, and become acquainted with the building. Nutrition Services and the Clinic will have tables ready for any questions or needs.

Kindergarten families are also welcome to attend, however, Kindergarten class lists are not set until after Kindergarten Readiness assessments have been completed.

Class lists for grades 1-4 will be posted on the front doors of the building on 8/21 at 5:00pm, and will also remain up for Open House.

Click HERE to access the 2026-27 elementary supply list!

KINDERGARTEN INFORMATION

KINDERGARTEN ORIENTATION

Kindergarten students do not start on the first day of school. We use the first 3 days for KRA appointments, and then have 2 days for orientation. Students with last names A-L will attend with their parents on Friday, 8/28 and last names M-Z on Monday, 8/31. Parents stay for about an hour to attend a presentation and then the student will remain for the rest of the school day. On orientation day, we highly recommend that your child travels home the way they will during the school year (i.e.if your child will ride a bus, we recommend having them take the bus). Kindergarten Orientation starts at 9:30, we ask parents and students to remain outside of the building until that time. The first official full day of Kindergarten is Tuesday, 9/1.

KINDERGARTEN READINESS ASSESSMENTS (KRA)

All incoming Kindergarten students are required to take the Kindergarten Readiness Assessment (or KRA). Dates for this are 8/25-8/27. To schedule your child's appointment, please call the office: 440-885-2351 as soon as possible.

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FREE BREAKFAST/LUNCH

For the 2026-27 school year, all Parma students will receive free breakfast and lunch. You may still have your child pa a lunch, but the main lunches are available for all. Stude will be able to choose from hot lunch, cold lunch, or PB&J. This does not include any "extras" such as ice cream or chips.

DISTRICT COMMUNICATION

The district is integrating **My Power Hub** as a new information system for parents. Click here to read information that was communicated by the district. This communication includes locating your child's teacher for the school year and transportation details. Until My Power Hub login information is available, the district encourages all families to use the Back-to-School Information Hub as your primary source for preparing for the new school year. As additional information becomes available, the hub will continue to be updated with the latest details. We encourage you to bookmark this Back-to-School Information Hub page and check back often throughout August.

ARRIVAL/DISMISSAL

- Please use the link below to access both arrival and dismissal procedures.

  Arrival & Dismissal Guide

- We kindly ask for your patience with dismissal, especially during the first couple weeks of school while we work out any glitches. Dismissing students quickly is secondary to dismissing safely.

PTA

Please consider joining our wonderful PTA! They do so many amazing things for our students and staff. Parents and guardians can be involved as much or as little as they wish, but we encourage everyone to become members.

Click HERE to become a PTA member by paying online using Givebacks!

Contact PTA President, James Feils with any questions: nhlions@yahoo.com

FOLLOW US

https://www.parmacityschools.org/thoreaupark
X: @PCSDThoreauPark
Instagram: thoreauparkpcsd

SCHOOL FEES

This Ohio Household Income Survey is now the official form used to determine eligibility for program discounts or school fee waivers. We ask all families to complete this form if your household income falls within or below the income guidelines listed in the form.