



**THORNTON TOWNSHIP
HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 205**
Nathaniel Cunningham, Jr., Ph.D., Superintendent

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

September 9, 2026



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**THORNTON TOWNSHIP
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OPEN SESSION

C A L L T O O R D E R

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ROLL CALL

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PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE



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COMMITTEE OF WHOLE

- A. Report from Curriculum Committee
- B. Report from Finance and Facilities Committee
- C. Report from Policy Committee
- D. Report from Discipline Committee

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CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes & Executive Meeting Minutes dated August 12, 2026
- B. Approval of District 205 Bills: Dated August 12, 2026, through September 8, 2026
- C. Personnel: Approval of Resignations, Leave of Absence, New Hires, Terminations, & Extra Compensation dated September 8, 2026
- D. Ratification:
 - i. Approval of Thornwood High School Emergency Football Field Repairs

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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 three 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."

Your name will not be called if you do not sign in and list a topic or the topic is not on the current Board agenda or if public participation has begun.

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FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

DR.DOSS

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THORNTON TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 205

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NEWS FROM OUR SCHOOLS

DR. RATLIFF

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THORNRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL



First Day Festivities

- ✓ Hall Parade from the TR Band
- ✓ High- energy Pep Rally
- ✓ Successful year ahead!



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THORNridge HIGH SCHOOL



Falcon Forward Camp

4 week summer camp for incoming freshmen

The students got a chance to:

- learn the school
- build academic habits for success
- explore our CTE program
- connect with friends
- identify resources and staff in the school



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THORNridge HIGH SCHOOL



Elevation Bootcamp

Rising seniors

- 2 week summer camp
- helped students get a jumpstart on the college application process.



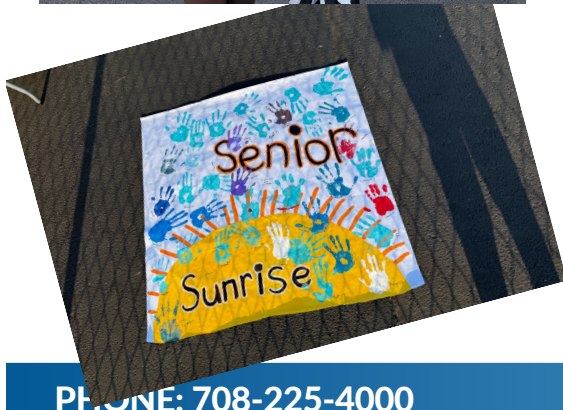


THORNridge HIGH SCHOOL



Senior Sunrise

Our senior students gathered with their classmates to watch the sunrise together. It's become a popular tradition which represents the "dawn" of a student's final year in high school.



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THORNTON TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL



FRESHMEN FIRST DAY



Principal Webb and his Administrative Staff met with Freshmen parents the first day of school to ease their anxiety. There was a great turnout with over 60+ parents in attendance.



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THORNTON TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL

World Class Wednesday: Rogell Hamilton: Model Cars to Master Tech



Hamilton: My interest came from working with my dad in the garage. We didn't do anything really heavy, just typical maintenance. But that drove my interest in vehicles. I took auto shop in high school. From there, I was introduced to the University Technical Institute in Lisle, Illinois. It wasn't too far from my home, so after high school, I went straight to UTI for automotive and diesel, with every intention of working at a car dealership, working on diesel pickup trucks.

CONGRATULATIONS TO **THORNTON'S** VERY OWN MR. ROGELL HAMILTON!

Earning the title of **Automotive Service Excellence World Class Technician** is no small accomplishment. To be recognized as World Class, these individuals have obtained ASE certification in 22 specialty areas: A1-A8 (automotive), T1-T8 (medium/heavy truck), B2-B5 (collision repair), and L1-L2 (advanced).

Not only is achieving certification in these areas impressive, but becoming World Class is no small feat. As of 2025, only 2,000 technicians have achieved World Class status. Motor Age sat down with Rogell Hamilton — an ASE World Class technician and instructor at Thornton Township High School in Harvey, Illinois — to learn more about his journey in the automotive industry and how gaining World Class status has helped advance his career.

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THORNTON TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL



THORNTON TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL

Class of 2026 Graduates

*100% of the Graduates of 2026 have
made a Post-High School Plan*

*Total Scholarships and Financial Aid offered to the class of 2026
\$36.8 Million.*



THORNTON TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL



CONGRATULATIONS!! 2026 ILLINOIS STATE SCHOLARS

Ashley A. Adegbite
Taofeeq Amuda
Patience A. Boykin
Kolawole J. Dawodu
Jessica N. Garcia
Jessica N. Garcia
Sebastian Garcia



Alexander Gomez
James J. Hart
Kyariane R Joseph
Milagros Ortega
Janluca Perez
Veronica F. Pickett
Amena Vhora

The State Scholar Program recognizes students attending approved high schools for outstanding academic achievement. State scholar designation provides honorary recognition with no monetary award. The top ten percent of graduates from approved high schools are announced as State Scholars each year.



THORNWOOD HIGH SCHOOL



N F T E
Teaching Youth to Build Businesses

The NFTE Chicago Entrepreneurship Showcase was a prestigious, "Shark Tank" style competition that began on April 30th with dozens of schools participating in the quarter-final round. Out of that extensive field, a panel of judges selected the top nine businesses to advance to the semi-finals—four of which were represented by our own talented Thornwood students.

Following a rigorous semi-final round, the judges narrowed the competition down to just three finalists. In an extraordinary achievement for our school, **all three finalist spots were earned by Thornwood students, resulting in a total sweep of the competition.**

We congratulate our winners:

1st Place: Malik Oladokun

2nd Place: Jaylen Moore

3rd Place: Navelle Drake

In addition to sharing a substantial cash prize, Malik has won an all-expenses-paid trip to New York City to represent Thornwood at the National NFTE Competition.

We are incredibly proud of these young entrepreneurs for their hard work, dedication, and exceptional business acumen.



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THORNWOOD HIGH SCHOOL



TW IB News: Celebrating THREE IB Diplomas!



Thornwood IB is proud to announce it graduated THREE students who earned the prestigious IB Diploma in 2026, leading District 205.

**Vincent Marshall
Isabella Rojas
Ariana Whitaker**

74% of students in the IB Program earned college credit for at least one class.

Highlights include an 95% pass rate for Lang and Lit, a 65% pass rate for Spanish, a 60% passing rate for Art, and a 42% for History.

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THORNWOOD HIGH SCHOOL



Amira Hondras



The Los Angeles Queens drafted **Thornwood Alum, Amira Hondras** in the fourth round, 71st overall. Amira made an instant splash, in her first professional game, hit a game tying single in the bottom of the 7th inning. The Los Angeles Queens went on to win the first game.

Amira has been a utility player for the LA Queens. Starting mostly at second base, Amira has also played center field, DH, and pitched.

She has continued to make Thornwood Baseball proud.





THORNWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

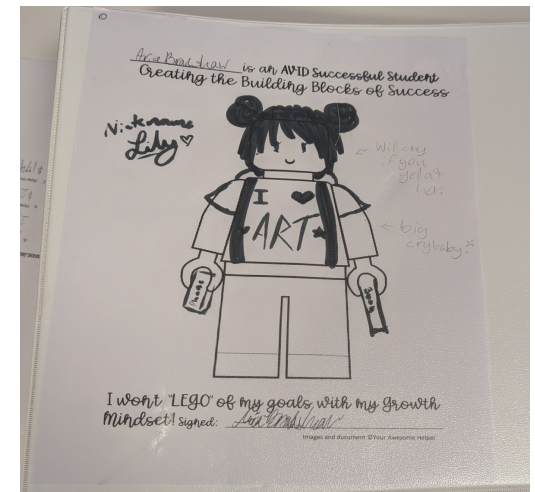


This year, Thornwood High School had an unprecedented 280 AVID students.

This is our largest number in over 6 years. Our Freshman class is strong, and we are hoping to see those numbers translate into higher enrollment in the upper grades.

All AVID students received their binders (see picture) and are using this organizational strategy throughout their day.

AVID seniors have begun the college application process. They created email signatures, wrote recommendation letter requests, and are currently learning about return on investment through Everfi (see picture) so that they make the right choice for them concerning which tertiary institutions to apply to.



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THORNWOOD HIGH SCHOOL



Thornwood Receives AVCA Award

The AVCA Team Academic Award honors high school and collegiate volleyball teams that maintain a year-long cumulative grade-point average of at least 3.30 on a 4.0 scale.

AVCA is the American Volleyball Coaches Association, which is a platform for volleyball coaches, that helps with growing the game, leadership, advocacy, professional development, etc.

They also have affiliated state groups like the Illinois Volleyball Coaches Association.



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**THORNTON TOWNSHIP
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NEW BUSINESS

A. Public Hearing and Recommended Approval: District Fiscal Year 2027 Budget- Dr. Johnson

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Thornton Township High School District 205

Presentation of 2026-2027 Budget

Preparing Today for the Challenges of Tomorrow

Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2027

Breakdown of Total Budget by Fund

Excluding Capital Projects Fund

	Beginning Balance	Revenues	Expenses	Ending Balance
Education	\$ 82,491,000	\$129,774,000	\$127,895,000	\$ 84,370,000
Building	10,907,000	19,857,000	21,251,000	9,513,000
Bond & Int.	1,449,000	11,611,000	11,165,000	1,895,000
Transportation	5,402,000	14,611,000	12,375,000	7,638,000
IMRF/SS	5,245,000	1,437,000	2,776,000	3,906,000
Working Cash	33,274,000	1,329,000	-	34,603,000
Life Safety	1,809,000	-	-	1,809,000
Total	\$140,577,000	\$178,619,000	\$175,462,000	\$143,734,000

Capital Projects Fund

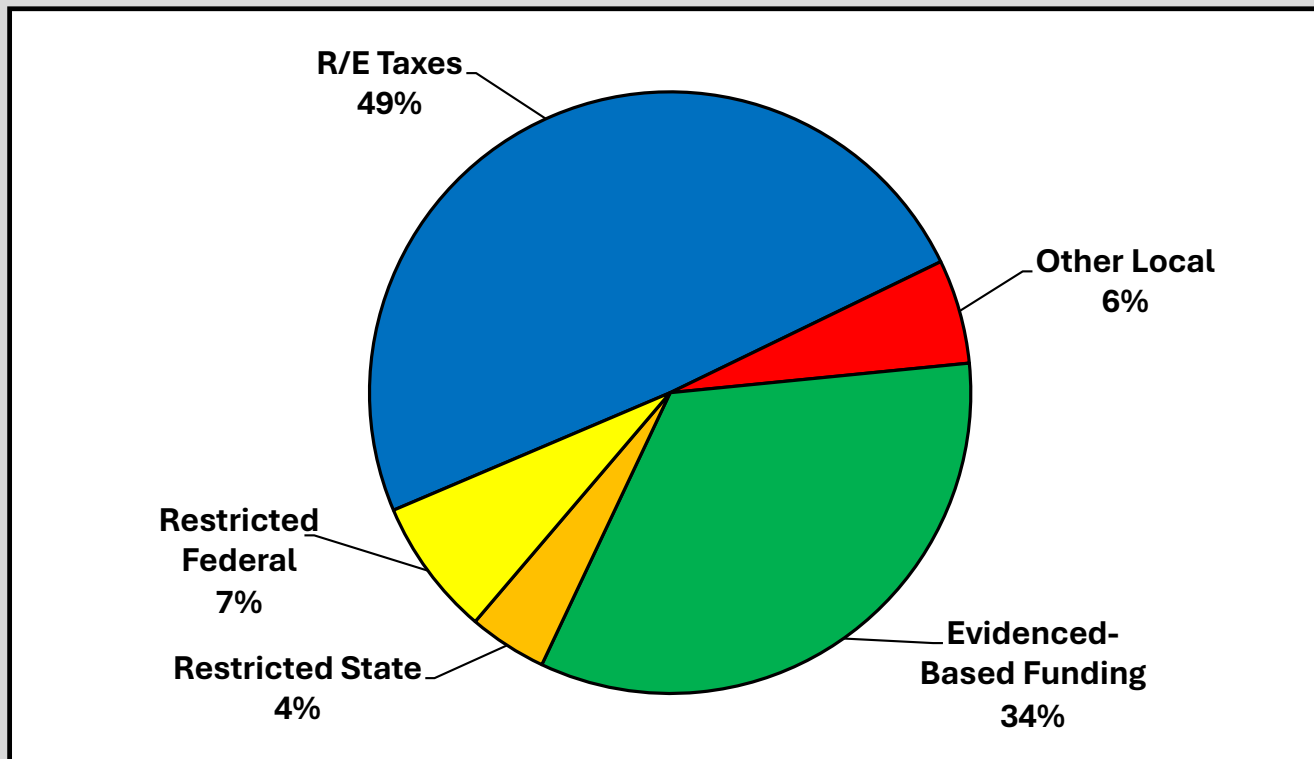
FY27 Expected Activity	
Beginning Balance	\$ 7,292,000
Bond Proceeds	20,000,000
Transfer-in of Prior Year Bond Proceeds	10,000,000
Estimated Capital Investment	(32,000,000)
Ending Balance	\$ 5,292,000

Budgeted Revenues – All Funds

Comparison of Budget Verses Prior Years

Source	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Unaudited FY 2026	Budget FY 2027
Real Estate Taxes	\$ 71,023,000	\$ 73,867,000	\$ 79,031,000	\$ 78,984,000	\$ 87,907,000
Other Local Revenues	14,980,000	13,769,000	9,792,000	11,037,000	10,012,000
Evidenced-Based Funding	50,099,000	53,613,000	57,062,000	57,176,000	60,000,000
Other State Grants	3,129,000	6,868,000	6,711,000	7,460,000	7,524,000
Federal Grants	<u>15,951,000</u>	<u>17,887,000</u>	<u>26,665,000</u>	<u>10,567,000</u>	<u>13,176,000</u>
Total Revenues	\$155,182,000	\$166,004,000	\$179,031,000	\$165,034,000	\$178,619,000

Breakdown of Budgeted Revenues

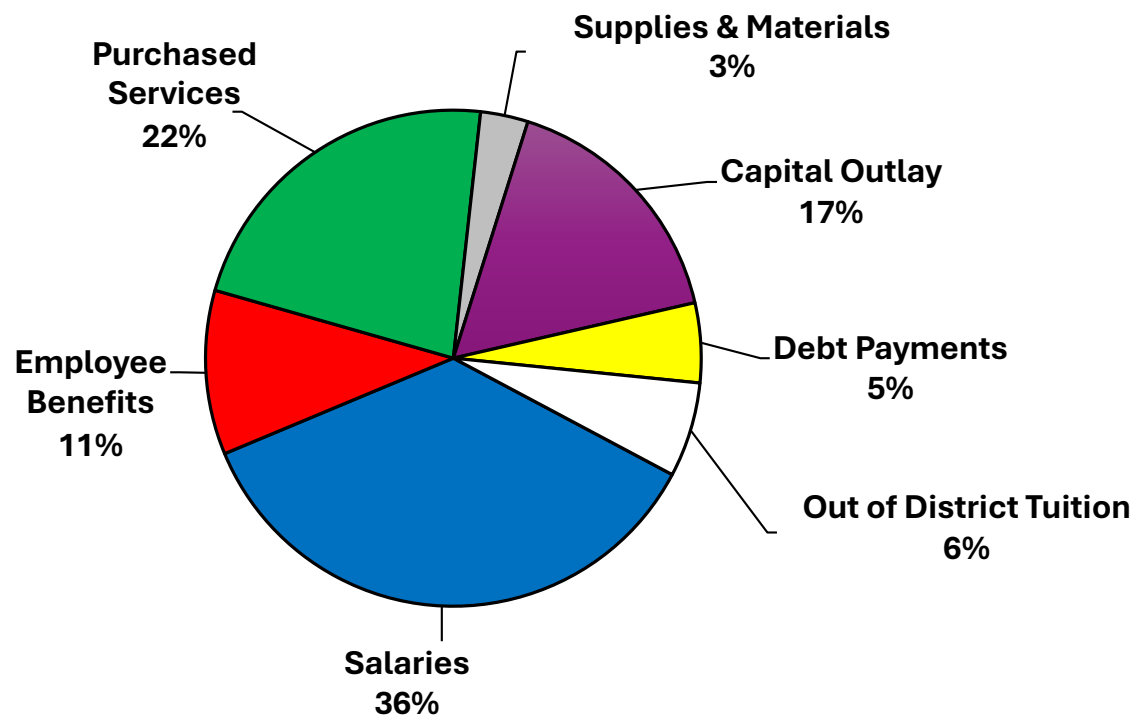


Budgeted Expenditures – All Funds

Comparison of Budget Verses Prior Years

Source	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	Unaudited FY 2026	Budget FY 2027
Salaries	\$ 58,831,000	\$ 63,981,000	\$ 66,921,000	\$ 70,744,000	\$ 74,481,000
Employee Benefits	14,286,000	16,803,000	18,026,000	18,243,000	22,194,000
Purchased Services	30,639,000	44,802,000	48,576,000	44,123,000	46,321,000
Supplies and Materials	7,882,000	8,211,000	6,732,000	6,178,000	6,442,000
Capital Outlay & Equip	4,827,000	15,673,000	27,674,000	33,028,000	34,287,000
Out of District Tuition & Other	11,838,000	12,052,000	13,394,000	11,592,000	12,808,000
Debt Service	<u>9,828,000</u>	<u>9,795,000</u>	<u>10,746,000</u>	<u>10,357,000</u>	<u>10,765,000</u>
Total Expenses	\$138,131,000	\$171,317,000	\$192,069,000	\$194,424,000	\$207,462,000

Breakdown of Budgeted Expenditures





End of Presentation



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NEW BUSINESS

B. Possible Action Concerning Transportation Services Contracts- Dr. Anderson

- i. R&W Transportation
- ii. Abundant Living Transportation
- iii. Visions Transportation

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NEW BUSINESS

C. First Reading: PRESS Plus Policy Update for Issue 122- Dr. Doss

- i. DRAFT UPDATE, Issue 122- 2:230 Public Participation at Board of Education Meetings and Petitions to the Board; 3:30 Chain of Command; 5:40 Communicable and Chronic Infectious Disease; 5:70 Religious Holidays; 5:240 Suspension; 6:70 Teaching About Religions; 6:80 Teaching About Controversial Issues; 6:190 Extracurricular and Co-Curricular Activities; 7:130 Student Rights and Responsibilities; 8:70 Accommodating Individuals with Disabilities; 2:120-E3 Resolution to Appoint a Delegate to the Illinois Associate of School Boards Delegate Assembly
- ii. DRAFT UPDATE- REWRITTEN, Issue 122- 2:70-E Checklist for Filling Board Vacancies by Appointment; 2:220- E1 Board Treatment of Closed Meeting Verbatim Recordings and Minutes; 2:220-E3 Closed Meeting Minutes; 2:220-E5 Semi-Annual Review of Closed Meeting Minutes; 2:220-E8 Board of Education Records Maintenance Requirements and FAQs; 7:330 Student Use of Buildings- Equal Access
- iii. REVIEW AND MONITORING, Issue 122- 2:30 School District Elections; 3:40 Superintendent; 3:50 Administrative Personnel Other Than the Superintendent; 3:60 Administrative Responsibility of the Building Principal; 3:70 Succession of Authority; 4:120 Food Services; 5:110 Recognition for Service; 5:140 Solicitation By or From Staff; 5:185 Family and Medical Leave; 7:30 Student Assignment and Intra-District Transfer; 7:80 Release Time for Religious Instruction/Observance; 7:345 Use of Educational Technologies; Student Data Privacy and Security; 8:100 Relations with Other Organizations and Agencies

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SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

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EXECUTIVE SESSION

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RECONVENE OPEN SESSION

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ACTION ITEMS FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. Possible Action Concerning Employment of Tenured Teacher

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ADJOURNMENT

Next Regular Meeting

October 7, 2026

THORNRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL

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