

Turkey Hill School Gobbler Newsletter

September 4, 2026

SCHOOL NEWS

BACK TO SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE: Our annual open house for grades 2-6 is Tuesday September 4th from 6:00 - 7:05. As a reminder our first grade families already had their open house before school started. Our Scholastic Book Fair Pop Up Shop will be open at 5:15 in the gym if you are interested in purchasing a book to leave on your child's desk or for the teacher. I suggest coming earlier during the 5:15 hour if you want to visit the Scholastic Fair - it can get busy. Don't worry we will still have our week long book fair that students will shop at later this fall. Lastly, this event is an evening planned for parents and guardians only. [Click here](#) for more information.

FREE BREAKFAST: Beginning October 1st, Orange Public Schools will begin offering free breakfast to all students everyday.

- [Click Here](#) for the flyer
- [Click here](#) for an informational letter

LUNCH MENU: Click [Here](#) for the September Menu.

FREE AND REDUCED LUNCH: Information regarding the Free and Reduced Lunch program and a downloadable application as well as Lunch menus will be posted on [our website](#). If your household qualifies for free or reduced meals based on posted income guidelines, please complete an application.

FIRE DRILL: We had our first fire drill today. We announced before it started that a drill was about to start and classroom teachers reviewed what to do. All the students did a phenomenal job!

DRAMA CLUB: The Turkey Hill School Drama Club is proud to present Frozen Jr. as our 2026-2027 production! Our fall drama club production is **for students in grades 4, 5, and 6 only**.

- For more information on rehearsals & dates, please visit the [THS Drama Club website](#)
- [THS Drama Club Registration](#) - **sign up by 9/10**

If you have any questions regarding the production please contact Kelsey Sullivan at ksullivan@orange-ed.org

FUNDRAISER FOR SMILOW: On September 19th, Ms. Malafronte will be riding 25 miles in the Closer to Free Bike Ride to benefit Smilow Cancer Hospital. She rides in honor of her brother, her dad, and so many others who have battled this horrible disease. As a final push to hit her goal of being the top fundraiser in this year's ride for Smilow, THS will be sponsoring a Hat Day on Friday September 11th. Students and staff can bring in a donation of any amount, and wear their favorite hat to school for the day. All proceeds will go directly to research and patient care at Smilow. If you prefer to make a tax deductible donation online, here is the link for her personal fundraising page: <https://www.rideclosertofree.org/participants/35626>

CELEBRATING YOUR CHILD'S BIRTHDAY REMINDER: Parents can send in non-food goody bags for each student in the class or they can arrange to read a story to the class either in person or through Google Meet. Please contact your child's teacher as it gets closer to their birthday to coordinate.

SBA PARENT REPORTS: The scores from the spring 2026 administration of the Smarter Balanced Assessment were sent home in backpacks for grades 4,5,and 6 families today. The Smarter Balanced scores for grade 7 (last year's grade 6) will arrive in the mail next week.

BEGINNING OF YEAR ASSESSMENTS: Students in all grades will be taking a few informal assessments over the coming weeks to gauge their current levels of performance and help teachers plan for instruction in reading, writing, and mathematics.

UPCOMING HOLIDAYS: We have Turkey Hill Students that celebrate the following upcoming holidays.

- Janmashtami is a Hindu holiday that celebrates the birth of Lord Krishna. Families may celebrate with colorful decorations, music, dancing, special foods, and stories about Krishna's life. We wish all of our Turkey Hill families who celebrate a joyful Janmashtami!
- Labor Day is a holiday that celebrates the hard work and contributions of workers across our country. It's a day to say thank you to all the people whose hard work helps our schools, families, and communities grow and thrive!

EVENING FOR THE ARTS GALA: Did you know that the Jamie Hulley Arts Foundation is a financial supporter of our drama club?! This year they are hosting their annual Evening for the Arts Gala on Saturday, September 19, 2026 at 7:30 pm at the Quick Center in Fairfield CT and features Jay Stollman's *Groovin' On Tour: A Woodstock Generation Rock Experience*. All proceeds benefit the Jamie Hulley Arts Foundation's scholarship & educational programs in Orange/Amity and throughout greater New Haven and Fairfield counties. The *Evening for the Arts* reception and raffle preview begins at 6:30 p.m. Light refreshments will be available. The performance begins at 7:30 p.m. [Click here](#) for tickets. For information about the **Jamie Hulley Arts Foundation**, visit **Jamie Hulley Arts Foundation**, call (203) 891-8869, or email: info@jamiehulleyartsfund.org.

VIRTUAL BACKPACK: Here you will find copies of all of the notices we typically send home by email or with your child.

- [School News](#)
 - [MLT Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser](#)
- [Community Events](#)
 - [Funtober at the Fairgrounds](#)
 - [Amity Youth Lacrosse](#)
 - [Orange Soccer Association](#)
 - [Cub Scouts](#)
 - [Amity Travel Basketball](#)
 - [Jamie Hulley Evening for the Arts](#)
 - [Amity Aquatics](#)
- [PTO information](#)

PTO EVENTS

WELCOME AND KEY PTO DATES: A huge welcome to all our new families and welcome back to all our THS returning families! PTO has already been hard at work planning the year's activity calendar, and are so excited to bring back so many of our Turkey Titan traditions, as well as introducing a few new events and volunteer opportunities this year.

These are the key dates and upcoming deadlines you don't want to miss.

- [THS Fun Run registration](#) is OPEN!
- [Join the PTO](#) by 9/30 to get your FREE school directory!
- [Library volunteers](#) - sign up by 9/11
- 8th Annual [THS Shirt Designs due 9/11](#)
- First PTO Meeting of the year is Thursday, 9/24 at 8:30 pm - virtual link coming soon!
- PTO Committee volunteers - [sign up to volunteer](#) for any of our event or activity committee

THS FUN RUN: Register TODAY!

It's time! You can sign up your student for our THS Fun Run! Our goal is to raise \$16,000 for general PTO operations and capital improvement requests. PTO operations include buses for field trips, teacher expense reimbursements, assemblies, Art Goes to School, author visits, etc. Past examples of capital improvements include paving the track, replacing the ceramics kiln, portable sound system for assemblies and drama, and building the AV studio. Signing up is easy and comes with a fun prize for your student!

★ Sign Up On MyBooster.com ★

Who's hungry for some FUN and EXCITING rewards?!

- **Sign up Challenge:** If 80% of Turkey Hill students sign up on mybooster.com, the WHOLE school will have a DJ'd Recess!
- **Family Sweepstakes:** Families! If you [register](#) your student(s) before 9/9, you will be in the running for an opportunity for reserved parking and front row seats for the winter concert or jamboree!

Thank you for being a part of our Turkey Hill School community and helping us make a difference for our students. We are grateful for your support! Follow our social pages for fun progress updates in the coming weeks.

Our school is working toward a BIG goal and Great Wolf Lodge wants to celebrate with us! Registered families will have the chance to earn some awesome rewards. Log in to mybooster.com today and share your student's donation page with your whole pack. Just for receiving their first donation, students can earn their very own Wolf Ears!

Key Dates to Remember:

 Fundraiser Kickoff in school – 09/09/2026

 Event Day – 09/18/2026

Want to know more about where the money goes that's raised for the Fun Run?

[Learn about the fun run and how it helps support THS](#)  

THS PTO MEMBERSHIP: Join the PTO by 9/30 to get your FREE school directory! All families are invited to join the THS PTO. Help us reach our goal of 100% family membership. Membership dues are \$20 per family, and are one of the largest sources of funding for the PTO. Each year, the PTO budget funds social events, like last week's family picnic, student enrichment activities, like author visits, Art Goes to School, and the Turkey Titan Printing Press, provides curriculum enhancement stipends to every teacher at THS, covers field trip buses for all students, and more! PTO by-laws and our insurance require that all volunteers for PTO programs (board members, room parents, library volunteers, AGTS, event and activity committees) be registered members of the PTO. Click Here to [Join the THS PTO](#) 

LIBRARY VOLUNTEERS: Volunteers are an essential part of our library and your children's education. You are invited and encouraged to assist during your child's library period. No experience needed. Training is provided. Please note your child(ren)'s library time when signing up to volunteer for your child's class. To be a library volunteer, please register no later than Friday, September 11th! [Library Volunteer Sign Up](#) - sign up by 9/11 

PTO COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS: If you aren't able to volunteer as a room parent or for the library, we have loads of other options for families that fit all different schedules - be it an evening or weekend social event, a one day event like Field Day or Junior Achievement. When it comes time to start planning these events and activities, we reach out to the people who have signed up here. Sign up for as many or as few opportunities as you would like. All we do is only possible through YOUR help! [PTO Committee Volunteer Sign Up](#) 

PTO BOARD OPPORTUNITY: We are also currently looking for an additional Board appointee to serve as an **Academic Chair**, helping to organize ongoing in-school programs like Library Volunteers, Art Goes to School, Author Visits, etc. If you are interested in getting more involved and serving on the PTO Board, please email turkeyhillpto@gmail.com

8th ANNUAL THS SHIRT CONTEST: Your School. Your Shirt! Each year, the PTO hosts a design contest for the official THS Shirt. All THS students are invited to submit a design to be featured on this year's THS spirit wear. Please be sure to follow the required design guidelines to be considered. All designs must be turned in to the office by Friday, September 11th. Students can view past shirts on the lobby bulletin board! The PTO and Principal Arterbery will narrow down submissions to be voted on by the entire school and the winning design will be the 2026-2027 THS Shirt! [THS Shirt Contest Submission Form](#) 

YEARBOOK PHOTOS: Currently accepting 1st Grade Orientation, Back to School Picnic and First Day of School photos. Photos should be of school events and preference for inclusion in the yearbook will be given to photos that include more than one student. Email thsyearbook2627@gmail.com with questions. [Click here to submit photos for the yearbook!](#) 

MONTHLY PTO MEETING: First meeting of the year is Thursday, 9/24 at 8:30 pm. All families are welcome to join this virtual meeting. To increase participation, we have set our monthly PTO meetings for the 4th Thursday of every month in the evening. Meetings are virtual via Google Meet. We hope you can join us! Stay tuned for meeting link the week of our meeting.

STAY IN TOUCH! Want to stay up to date on ALL that is happening at THS?

- Follow us on [Facebook](#)
- Sync our [THS PTO calendar](#) to your own
- Find links to all the latest on the [THS PTO website](#)
- We welcome your questions and feedback! Email us anytime at turkeyhillpto@gmail.com

CALENDAR

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
7th No School - Labor Day	8th Open House 6pm - 7pm One Night Only Pop Up Scholastic Book Fair opens at 5:15pm - leave a book on your child's desk if you want!	9th Fun Run Kick Off	10th	11th Wear your THS Spirit Wear Library Volunteer Registrations Due THS Shirt Design Entries Due Hat Day for Smilow!
14th	15th Drama Club Rehearsals 3:00 - 4:30pm	16th THS Library Volunteer Training 8:30am	17th Drama Club Rehearsals 3:00 - 4:30pm	18th THS Fun Run Event - Times and more information to come.

TURKEY HILL SCHOOL CONTACT INFORMATION

School Phone: 203-891-8040	Dr. Denise Arterbery (Principal): darterbery@orange-ed.org
School Fax: 203-891-8043	Erin Sepkaski (Administrative Assistant): esepkaski@orange-ed.org
Website: Click Here	Kathleen Malone (Nurse): kmalone@orange-ed.org