Thank You and Farewell to Christine Helm

Christine Helm, our Assistant Principal, has let us know that she will be leaving for a position as a corporate trainer for Alaska Airlines. Her last day will be Wednesday, Nov. 12. Christine came to Thurgood Marshall at the beginning of the 2013-14 school year as the Assistant Principal. After only a few months on the job she assumed the position of Interim Principal when former Principal Julie Breidenbach left to open Fairmount Park Elementary.

Christine has worked hard to provide continuity for the Thurgood Marshall school community both when Julie left, and as I transitioned in as Principal this year. Christine has made thoughtful decisions in her work with students, parents and staff. She has shown integrity, patience and kindness. I have appreciated being able to partner with her in the work that we do together each day. She will be missed!

This year, Christine has supported kindergarten and 2nd and 3rd grades. The administrator who takes her place will assume this responsibility; in the meantime, if you have a child in one of these grades and you need help after Nov. 12, please do be in touch with me. While it may take me a bit longer to respond, please know that my primary concern during this time of transition is ensuring that teachers, students and parents continue to be supported.

Our District central office is supporting us in finding a substitute administrator (usually a recently retired Principal) until we are able to interview for a permanent candidate. The Assistant Principal position will be posted this week and a site-based team will interview prospective candidates in the coming weeks. If you are a parent who has completed the site-based interview training and would like to be part of our interview team, please email me at kjmay1@seattleschools.org.

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Helm: ‘Has Been an Honor and a Privilege to Serve You’

Thurgood Marshall Elementary is an amazing school with passionate educators who serve an extraordinary and diverse group of children and families. It has truly been an honor and a privilege to serve you all as both the Assistant Principal and Interim Principal.

However, I have decided to pursue an alternative career path and am therefore resigning my position as Assistant Principal with Seattle Public Schools effective Nov. 12. I am embarking on an exciting opportunity with Alaska Airlines in their corporate training department. You are in good hands with Katie May as Principal and a beloved, dedicated staff. Thank you for your support; I will miss you all and remember you fondly.
‘Amulet’ Author to Visit Thurgood Marshall

Graphic novelist Kazu Kibuishi, author and illustrator of the popular “Amulet” book series, will appear at a special grades 3-5 assembly at 10:30 am on Wed., Nov. 12. This event is courtesy of Barnes & Noble at Northgate Mall. Books can be purchased through the PTA; a flyer will come home with more info.

PTA Meeting Preview

Literacy, counseling and technology are the main topics at the next PTA meeting, Tues., Nov. 18, 6:30-8 pm in the Library. Myndique Adams (Seattle Public Library) and Merilee Hudson (TM Librarian) will discuss literacy, helping children select books and the Global Reading Challenge. Ms. Kaloper will provide an overview of school counseling programs, and Principal May will discuss how technology fits into the curriculum, plus give a school update.

Members Sought for Bell Times Task Force

The District is still seeking members for its Bell Times Analysis Task Force, which began work this month on presenting options for school-start times better suited to children’s sleep needs at different ages. Commitment is one year, normally with monthly meetings. Contact the school office if you are interested in an application.

Thankful Party/Dance/Potluck Coming Up

Hope to see you at the Fall Dance Friday, Nov. 14, 6:30-8 pm in the Cafeteria and Gym. It’s a potluck, so come for dinner! Please bring something based on your last name:

- A-H = Fruit or a dessert
- I-P = Cheese, protein or veggie, and crackers
- Q-Z = Chips, pretzels, or something similar

If you’re able, please also bring along items to stock Tutu’s Pantry. Especially welcomed are rice, dried beans, dried lentils, and peanut butter/jelly, but anything you can bring is appreciated.

Volunteers for before, during, and after the event are greatly appreciated; see link below!

Volunteers … Can You Help?

Here are some available volunteer positions:

- **Enrichment Assistant:** Help facilitate registration and parent communications for the winter quarter.
- **Fall Dance Volunteers:** Volunteers needed the day and night of the dance. Sign up here: [www.bit.ly/ThankfulDance](http://www.bit.ly/ThankfulDance)
- **Academic Volunteers:** Assist kindergartners with reading stations and writing labs. 45 minutes, once a week. Morning and afternoon slots available.
- **Pancake Breakfast Chair:** Plan and execute this all-school event on Saturday, Jan. 24, 2015. Work with volunteers who can assist with procurement, cooking, serving, and cleanup. A written job description and task list is available.

For more information, or more opportunities, go to [www.tmlink.org/info/volunteering](http://www.tmlink.org/info/volunteering) or contact Volunteer Coordinator Jen Ellis at jenniferellis.206@gmail.com or (206) 276-4982.

Are you Safety–Minded?

The Thurgood Marshall Safety Team is looking for a parent to join its regular monthly meeting. This team looks at our school’s emergency preparedness and all things related to keeping the school safe. The next meeting is **Friday, Nov. 7**, at 8:15 am in the Portable #2 classroom.

Interested? Email Principal May at kjmay1@seattleschools.org.

Student Artwork Displayed in Local Café

Artwork from our 4th-graders, inspired by artist Andy Warhol, is on display at Judkins Street Café (S Judkins St. and 26th Ave S)! The café is open 8-8 Tuesday-Friday, 9-8 Saturdays and 9-3 on Sunday. Thanks to art teacher Ms. Zirngibl!

Special Education Council Needs Parents

Seattle Public Schools is seeking volunteers to serve on the Special Education Advisory & Advocacy Council (SE AAC) for a 1-year term.

The council has up to 30 members, at least **two-thirds of whom must be parents of children** enrolled in a District Special Education Program.

Nominations/applications are due by **5 pm Friday, Nov. 14**. More information on the Council found here: [www.bit.ly/SE-AAC](http://www.bit.ly/SE-AAC)

Family Directory Available Today

Watch your child’s backpack today for a copy of this year’s Family Directory! Due to the limited supply, each child will receive one copy. If you have any questions or special circumstances requiring an additional copy, please email pta@tmlink.org.

Many thanks to PTA volunteer Cara Holloway for her countless hours of work to create this essential resource. While the PTA has made every effort to ensure accuracy and completeness, there is no absolute guarantee and we apologize for any incorrect or missing information.

TM Briefs


**Washington Middle School is hosting tours** on Dec. 11 & 12, 7:50-9:15 am. Details on the WMS PTSA website: [www.wmspta.com](http://www.wmspta.com)

**Smart Kid Workshop:** The Northwest Gifted Child Association (NWGCA) is holding the workshop, “What Parents Need to Know About Smart Kids.” The workshop is in Woodinville on Nov. 16. For more information, visit the NWGCA website at [www.nwgca.org](http://www.nwgca.org). Send questions regarding this workshop to Northwest Gifted Child Association at info@nwgca.org.

Have an article for Pup Press? Send it to Dana Armstrong at pup-press@mail.com.

If your e-mail submission is not acknowledged within 24 hours, please call or text to confirm receipt at 206-419-5523.
Thurgood Marshall Thanksgiving Matching Program

Thanksgiving is right around the corner! We have an annual tradition at Thurgood Marshall of sharing the spirit and tradition of Thanksgiving by matching families who want to donate ingredients for the meal with families who need that food to make the holiday complete. Through generous donations, we will provide a “Thanksgiving Meal-in-a-Bag” to each Thurgood Marshall family in need.

DONORS: Prepare a “Thanksgiving Meal-in-a-Bag” with the following items in a doubled Grocery Bag:

- $20 gift card to QFC or Safeway
- 2 cans of Green Beans
- 1 bag of cubed bread stuffing
- 1 box of instant Mashed Potatoes
- 1 can of cream of Mushroom soup
- 1 can of Cranberry sauce
- 1 pound of Yams or sweet potatoes
- 1 Ready Pie Crust
- 1 can of Pumpkin puree
- 1 can of evaporated milk

Please email Kathryn (Katie) Egolf (kathryn.egolf@gmail.com) to confirm you will be participating, then deliver your bag to the area with the red bins in the entry hall or the front office on Wed. Nov 19 or Thurs. Nov 20. From 9:10 thru 9:35 those days, Katie Egolf will be in the front hall to accept bags; if you can’t make it at those times, please deposit them in the red bins. Thank you for your generosity!

RECEIVERS: The Meal-in-a-Bags with the above supplies will be sent home with your student on Fri. Nov 21st. If your student is already a member of Tutu’s Pantry, they will automatically get this meal. If you do not receive a Tutu’s backpack regularly, you can sign up to receive this special Thanksgiving donation by doing one of the following:

1. Contact Kathryn Egolf (kathryn.egolf@gmail.com) OR
2. Fill out the form below and drop this form at the front desk.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Student’s First &amp; Last name</th>
<th>Room #</th>
<th>Email</th>
<th>Phone #</th>
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Thank You!

Any Questions? Call or email Katie Egolf: (206) 725-8850 (home); (310)433-0434 (mobile); kathryn.egolf@gmail.com