

WEEKLY UPDATES

SEPTEMBER 29, 2023
EDITION

WHAT'S NEW
FROM
DR. FITZHUGH



Good Day Orange School District Families & Staff,

I hope this communication finds you well. Additionally, I am hopeful each of you are in great health and spirit. We had yet another exciting week within the Orange Public School District.

As a reminder, continue to visit our district website www.orange.k12.nj.us under latest news and information as well as our social media handles to get the most up to date district updates. As promised, we will continue to provide information in real time, so you are always in the know.

This week, we had four amazing Back to School Nights. Thank you to Teams: STEM Innovation Academy of the Oranges, Rosa Parks Community School, Scholars Academy, and Orange Preparatory Academy of Inquiry and Innovation. You most certainly ensured that families knew about the programming, which resulted in great attendance across the district.

As always, I thank you for your continued support and belief in our school district. I extend to each of you a great weekend.

Educationally yours,
Gerald Fitzhugh, II, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

COMMUNITY EVENTS

GRADUATION RATE COMPARISON



EACH YEAR, WE TAKE A DEEP DIVE INTO OUR GRADUATION RATE.

AS SHARED AT THE SEPTEMBER BOARD MEETING, IT WAS IMPORTANT TO SHOW THE COMPARISON FROM 2022 TO 2023.

CONGRATULATIONS ON THIS MONUMENTAL IMPROVEMENT IN OUR GRADUATION RATE.

CLASS OF 2022

STEM (97.8%)

OHS (77.1%)

DISTRICT (79.8%)

VS.

CLASS OF 2023

STEM (100%)

OHS (88.4%)

DISTRICT (90%)



COMMUNITY EVENTS

WEEK OF RESPECT IS APPROACHING:
WEEK OF OCTOBER 2ND BEGINS WEEK OF RESPECT.
YOU MAY ASK WHAT IS WEEK OF RESPECT?



SCHOOL DISTRICTS STATEWIDE RECOGNIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF CONTINUALLY FOSTERING A POSITIVE SCHOOL CLIMATE. THE FUNDAMENTAL WORK BEING DONE TO REDUCE INCIDENCES OF VIOLENCE AND HARASSMENT, INTIMIDATION, AND BULLYING (HIB) WITHIN THE SCHOOLS IS PARAMOUNT AND AIDS IN PROVIDING STUDENTS A SAFE ENVIRONMENT IN WHICH THEY ARE ABLE TO ATTAIN ACADEMIC SUCCESS AND GROW AS INDIVIDUALS. DURING THE WEEK OF RESPECT, SCHOOL DISTRICTS HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO BUILD UPON THEIR CURRENT WORK BY DELIVERING AGE-APPROPRIATE INSTRUCTION TO STUDENTS ON THESE ESSENTIAL TOPICS.

WEEK OF RESPECT - THE ANTI-BULLYING BILL OF RIGHTS ACT (P.L. 2010, C.122) REQUIRES THAT THE WEEK BEGINNING WITH THE FIRST MONDAY IN OCTOBER OF EACH YEAR BE DESIGNATED AS THE WEEK OF RESPECT IN NEW JERSEY. IN RECOGNITION OF THE IMPORTANCE OF SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL LEARNING AND CHARACTER EDUCATION, SCHOOL DISTRICTS ARE REQUIRED TO OBSERVE THE WEEK BY PROVIDING AGE-APPROPRIATE INSTRUCTION FOCUSING ON PREVENTING HIB.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

REMINDER: BILINGUAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING



THE OFFICE OF BILINGUAL/ESL & WORLD LANGUAGES VIRTUAL BILINGUAL PARENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING, HOSTED BY:

NURKA NIEVES, ED.D.,
SUPERVISOR OF BILINGUAL/ESL & WORLD LANGUAGES K-5TH
&
MR. FRANKLIN TAFUR,
SUPERVISOR OF BILINGUAL/ESL & WORLD LANGUAGES 6-12TH

WILL TAKE PLACE ON
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2023, FROM 6 PM - 7 PM,
TO GIVE THE OVERVIEW OF THE BILINGUAL/ESL PROGRAM
2023/2024.

**PLEASE CHECK YOUR CHILD'S CLASSDOJO FOR THE MEETING
INFORMATION AND LINK.**

COMMUNITY EVENTS

**REMINDER:
SEPAC MEETING IS UPCOMING-COME ONE COME ALL**



WELCOME TO THE FIRST MEETING OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION PARENTS ADVISORY GROUP FOR THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR.

**THE MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE ON
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2023, AT 6 PM,
AND THE DISCUSSION ITEMS ARE:**

- › MISSION OF SEPAG
- › NEW INITIATIVES
- › UPCOMING EVENTS

**PLEASE CHECK YOUR CHILD'S CLASSDOJO FOR THE MEETING LINK.
SEE THE FLYER FOR DETAILS.**

COMMUNITY EVENTS

PBSIS STORE OPENS AT LINCOLN AVENUE:



IT'S THAT TIME OF THE YEAR TO OPEN LINCOLN AVENUE SCHOOL'S
"STOP AND SHOP."

INTRODUCING LINCOLN AVENUE SCHOOL'S DOJO STORE,
WHICH AIMS TO MOTIVATE STUDENTS WITH POSITIVE INCENTIVES
EARNED VIA DOJO POINTS.

THE DOJO STORE IS PART OF OUR BEHAVIOR MANAGEMENT
PROGRAM WHERE STUDENTS EARN POINTS FOR POSITIVE BEHAVIORS
THAT THEY CAN USE TO PURCHASE ITEMS FROM THE STORE.

[CLICK HERE TO LOOK AT LINCOLN AVENUE SCHOOL'S AWESOME
"STOP AND SHOP" DOJO STORE COMMERCIAL!.](#)

COMMUNITY EVENTS

A GREAT DONATION MOMENT AT PARK AVENUE SCHOOL

ON SEPTEMBER 20TH, MRS. MOINVIL, THE COMMUNITY SCHOOL COORDINATOR AT PARK AVENUE SCHOOL, PICKED UP A DONATION OF SCHOOL SUPPLIES FROM GREEN BINZ, LOCATED IN LIVINGSTON, NEW JERSEY.

THE SUPPLIES WERE DISPLAYED IN THE FRONT OF THE SCHOOL, WHERE TEACHERS, PARENTS, AND STUDENTS HELPED THEMSELVES TO ANYTHING THEY NEEDED.

THANK YOU, GREEN BINZ, FOR THIS GREAT DONATION!



COMMUNITY EVENTS

CONTINUED PARTNERSHIP WITH BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH AND PARK AVENUE SCHOOL

EARLIER IN THE MONTH, BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH, LOCATED IN ORANGE, NJ, DONATED SCHOOL SUPPLIES, SCHOOL UNIFORMS, UNDERGARMENTS, SOCKS, TISSUE, HAND SANITIZERS, ETC. TO PARK AVENUE SCHOOL.

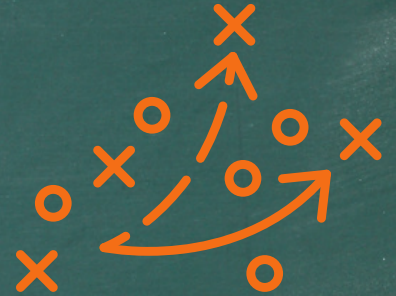
THANK YOU TO PASTOR FERGUSON, MS. P. HAMMOND, MS. P. FRAZIER, DR. BOSEMAN, AND MS. R. DIXON FOR THESE AMAZING AND GENEROUS GIFTS.

THEY ARE TRULY APPRECIATED!



COMMUNITY EVENTS

FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS



THE OHS TORNADO FOOTBALL TEAM CONTINUES TO ROLL, DEFEATING BARRINGER 50 - 34 AT NEWARK SCHOOLS STADIUM THIS PAST FRIDAY EVENING. SENIOR QB MAURICE WILLIAMS HAD ANOTHER STELLAR GAME WITH 5 TDS AND 326 PASSING YARDS TO GO ALONG WITH HIS 100 RUSHING YARDS.

SENIOR MA'KHY ACEY HAULED IN 3 OF WILLIAMS' TDS, ALONG WITH 2 TO SOPHOMORE TYSHAWN BOYD. JUNIOR RB SHAMAR MYERS POWERED THE TORNADOES ON THE GROUND, WITH 100 YARDS RUSHING AND 2 TDS OF HIS OWN.

VISIT THE OHS ATHLETICS WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA ACCOUNTS FOR UPDATES, SCHEDULES, AND MORE.



COMMUNITY EVENTS



PARTENRSHIP WITH THE ORANGE FIRE DEPARTMENT AND THE ORANGE SCHOOL DISTRICT



Community
connections for
students



Scholars Academy
PreK students left
school today with an
extra backpack
donated by the
Orange Fire
Department



ON SEPTEMBER 21ST, THE ORANGE FIRE DEPARTMENT VISITED CENTRAL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, FOREST STREET COMMUNITY SCHOOL & OAKWOOD AVENUE COMMUNITY SCHOOL.

THEY DONATED 50 BACKPACKS FILLED WITH SCHOOL SUPPLIES TO EACH SCHOOL. THEY SPOKE WITH STUDENTS ABOUT THE POWER OF HARD WORK AND EFFORT. STUDENTS WERE ENCOURAGED TO DO THEIR BEST AND TO HAVE A GREAT SCHOOL YEAR.

ON SEPTEMBER 21ST, THE ORANGE FIRE DEPARTMENT STOPPED BY PARK AVENUE SCHOOL WITH A GENEROUS DONATION OF BACKPACKS DISTRIBUTED TO SOME STUDENTS.

THANK YOU, OFD, FOR THIS AWESOME GIFT! THE ORANGE FIRE DEPARTMENT WAS EXTREMELY GENEROUS WITH SCHOLARS ACADEMY STUDENTS ON SEPTEMBER 22ND, GIVING EACH STUDENT BACKPACKS FILLED WITH GOODIES.

THANK YOU, ORANGE FIRE DEPARTMENT, FOR THIS AMAZING GIFT!

COMMUNITY EVENTS

ROSA PARKS COMMUNITY SCHOOL HOSTS ITS ANNUAL PEP RALLY



EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

ROSA PARKS COMMUNITY SCHOOL (RPCS) HELD ITS ANNUAL PEP RALLY TO WELCOME STUDENTS BACK TO ANOTHER PROMISING SCHOOL YEAR.

THE PEP RALLY KICKED OFF WITH THE RPCS BAND, A PERFORMANCE FROM RPCS CHEERLEADERS, A TUG OF WAR BETWEEN GRADES, AND ENDED WITH A DANCE PARTY.

THE SCHOOL MASCOT MADE A SPECIAL APPEARANCE AND JOINED IN ON THE FUN! PRINCIPAL DR. JOSEPH-CHARLES ALSO SPOKE WITH THE STUDENTS ABOUT WHAT SURPRISES ARE IN STORE FOR THIS SCHOOL YEAR.

THE STUDENTS, TEACHERS, AND FACULTY HAD A BLAST AND ARE READY TO BEGIN A PROMISING SCHOOL YEAR! GO RPCS!

COMMUNITY EVENTS

ROSA PARKS COMMUNITY SCHOOL HOSTS ITS ANNUAL ART SHOW



EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

ON SEPTEMBER 20, ARTISTS, THEIR PROUD FAMILIES, AND STAFF ATTENDED THE ROSA PARKS COMMUNITY SCHOOL'S ART SHOW AT THE BOARD OF EDUCATION BUILDING TO ADMIRE THE WORK CURATED BY ART TEACHER MS. WSZOLKOWSKI. STUDENTS RECEIVED CERTIFICATES OF RECOGNITION FOR THEIR ARTWORK, WHICH INCLUDED SUN PRINTS, GRID DRAWINGS, FRIDA KAHLO PORTRAITS, AND OTHER COLORFUL PIECES IN VARIOUS MEDIUMS.

THE SUPERVISOR OF VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS CLERIE RECOGNIZED THE ATTENDANCE OF DISTRICT ADMINISTRATORS AND INTRODUCED SUPERINTENDENT DR. FITZHUGH, WHO WELCOMED EVERYONE, AND PRINCIPAL JOSEPH CHARLES, WHO ACKNOWLEDGED THE ATTENDANCE OF HER STAFF MEMBERS AND CONGRATULATED THE STUDENTS AND FAMILIES!

COMMUNITY EVENTS

DISTRICT CALENDAR



Families and staff, as you plan your days and weeks, the following link (<https://www.orange.k12.nj.us/Page/31659>.) to the district calendar approved by the Board of Education in February 2023.

The calendar can assist you by knowing all days in session and off session. Should you have any questions, you are encouraged to email reopeningofschools@orange.k12.nj.us.

Throughout the course of this year, the reopeningofschools@orange.k12.nj.us email has remained intact in order to answer questions that you may have during this unique experience. While email responses are often returned within hours of receipt, please allow 24-48 hours for an email response. The district wants you to hear from us with any and all questions that you have. It is very important to keeping staff and families informed, particularly during these times.

Please find the district calendar for SY 23-24 using the following link:
<https://www.orange.k12.nj.us/Page/32723>.

BACK-TO-SCHOOL NIGHT

Families, the district announced Back to School Night in the beginning of July 2023 for planning purposes. Below is the listing of Back to School Nights. Please be reminded that these nights are in person at the school location. Back to School Nights began on Monday, September 11, 2023 at Orange High School and Twilight and concluding on Thursday, September 14, 2024 at Orange Early Childhood Center as well as Oakwood Avenue School. Parents, thank you for showing up and out for your scholars. We are certainly beginning in the right direction as it relates to Core Focus Area One of our Strategic Plan: Strong Home-School Community Connection as well as Core Focus Area Four Rigorous and Relevant Curricula and Instruction. Parents, continue to ask questions. We are here to support the scholars through and through. We need ALL students present and ready to learn each and every day from pre-kindergarten to Grade Twelve.

| NAME OF SCHOOL | DATES FOR BACK-TO-SCHOOL NIGHT |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|
| JOHN ROBERT LEWIS ECC | MONDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2023 |

Reminder: Interim Report Card One Posting Window



Families, the Interim One Reporting Window opens on **September 29th** and will close on **October 10th**.

This time will allow our staff to insert comments and grades at this point in the marking period.

COMMUNITY EVENTS



Orange Public Schools
Office of Early Childhood Learning
Jacquelyn Blanton, Ed.D, Executive Director of Early Learning

2023-2024 School Year Preschool Registration

**MUST BE 3-YEARS-OLD
BY OCTOBER 1, 2023!**

PROGRAM INCLUDES:

- Breakfast & Lunch
- Special Needs & ELL Services
- High Scope Curriculum
- Certified Trained Staff
- Middle States Accredited
- And a lot more...

**ORANGE
RESIDENTS
ONLY!**

DATES:

**OCTOBER 3, 10, 17, 24, 31
10:00-12:00**

**REGISTRATION LOCATION:
ORANGE EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER
397 PARK AVE, ORANGE, NJ**

VISIT OUR WEBSITE: [ORANGE.K12.NJ.US/DOMAIN/528](https://orange.k12.nj.us/domain/528)

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS:

Child's Original Birth Certificate

Vaccination Record

Current Lease or Mortgage Statement

2 Additional Proofs of address

Photo I.D. of Parent/Guardian

email contact: prekindergartenregistration@orange.k12.nj.us

Orange Early Childhood Program includes all children regardless of abilities. If you are concerned that your child is learning or developing differently, you can call the District to request an evaluation for preschool special education and related services.

COMMUNITY EVENTS



SCHOOL YEAR ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE TIMES FOR STAFF AND STUDENTS SY 2023-2024:

| SCHOOL LEVEL | ARRIVAL TIME FOR STUDENTS | ARRIVAL TIME FOR STAFF | END TIME FOR STUDENTS | END TIME FOR STAFF |
|------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| ELEMENTARY LEVEL (INCLUDING PRE-KINDERGARTEN) | 8:30 AM | 8:20 AM | 3:00 PM | 3:10 PM |
| ORANGE HIGH SCHOOL | 8:20 AM | 8:05 AM | 2:40 PM | 2:55 PM |
| ORANGE PREPARATORY ACADEMY OF INQUIRY AND INNOVATION | 8:25 AM | 8:20 AM | 2:50 PM | 2:55 PM |
| STEM INNOVATION ACADEMY OF THE ORANGES | 8:20 AM | 8:15 AM | MONDAYS 2:20 PM FOR TEACHER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TUES - FRI 3:30 PM | 4PM* *INCLUDES STIPEND |
| TWILIGHT PROGRAM | 3:30 PM* *3:00 PM - LUNCH | 3:00 PM | 7:30 PM | 7:30 PM |

As a reminder, the following chart outlines the school start and end times for this school year. As shared in June and August 2022, these times were presented via letter as well at board of education meetings.

SCHOOL CALENDARS ARE NOW POSTED FOR OCTOBER 2023

Each district school shared a monthly calendar of events and activities with families this week; including School Spirit Days, Picture Days, and Professional Development to name a few. See the October calendars on each school posted on social media as well as each school's website. Please find the following as samples:

Park Avenue School
October 2023

Park Avenue Elementary School
Week of Respect Spirit Week 2023

STUDENT CALENDAR
Orange Preparatory Academy of Inquiry & Innovation
2023-2024 SY

COMMUNITY EVENTS



MEND MARKET RETURNS THIS YEAR:

MEND HUNGER RELIEF NETWORK IS SPONSORING A MONTHLY FREE FARMER'S MARKET AT THE ORANGE EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER (OECC) FOR FAMILIES ATTENDING THE OECC ON **TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24, FROM 2:30 PM - 3:00 PM.**



ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY LUNCH MENUS FOR SEPTEMBER 2023

The following links will allow all families to view the preschool, elementary, and secondary lunch menus for September 2023.

- **Pre-School:** [Click HERE for Pre-School.](#)
- **Elementary:** [Click HERE for Elementary Schools.](#)
- **Middle School:** [Click HERE for Middle School.](#)
- **Orange High School/Twilight:** [Click HERE for Orange High School/Twilight.](#)
- **STEM Innovation Academy of the Oranges:** [Click HERE for STEM Innovation Academy of the Oranges](#)



COMMUNITY EVENTS



BOARD MEETING DATES & REMINDERS

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION VOTED TO CHANGE THEIR MONTHLY MEETINGS FROM TUESDAY TO WEDNESDAY EVENINGS AT THE REORGANIZATION MEETING. KINDLY REVIEW THE NEW DATES FOR SY 23-24.

2023 BOARD OF EDUCATION BUSINESS MEETING SCHEDULE:

Wednesday, October 11, 2023
Wednesday, November 8, 2023
Wednesday, December 13, 2023

UPCOMING COMMITTEE/BOARD MEETINGS (PUBLIC)

PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE VIRTUAL MEETING

Wednesday, October 4, 2023, at 4:00 p.m.

ORANGE BOARD EDUCATION PUBLIC BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, October 11, 2023, at 7:30p.m., held at OPA-II,
400 Central Avenue, Orange, NJ, 07050.

Will Recess until 6:45pm, but no later than 7:30pm.

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### DISTRICT GOALS AND THE STRATEGIC PLAN REMINDERS

*As we continue to Move into Greatness, I want our families and staff to continue to engage with the strategic plan and district goals.*

**THE FOLLOWING LINK IS FOR THE DISTRICT GOALS:**

<HTTPS://WWW.ORANGE.K12.NJ.US/PAGE/30018>.

**THE FOLLOWING LINK IS FOR THE STRATEGIC PLAN:**

<HTTPS://WWW.ORANGE.K12.NJ.US/DOMAIN/3344>.