

Superintendent's Report Orange Public Schools “Good to Great”

Gerald Fitzhugh, II, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools
“The Teaching Superintendent”
January 11, 2023

Focus Core Area Numbers 1- 4
District Goal Number 1-4 and All Sub Sections



Celebration of Students

Student of the Month Announcement

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Students of the Month
December 2022
Congratulations to our STAR Students!

Name of School	Student of the Month
Orange High School	Joseph Manzo
Orange Preparatory Academy of Inquiry and Innovation	Marvens Jean
Twilight U	Jason Morales-Polanco
Cleveland Street School	Kaiden Saint Cyr
Forest Street School	Mikel Gordon
Heywood Avenue School	Sarah Alphonse

Name of School	Student of the Month
Lincoln Avenue School	Max Meija Vasquez
Oakwood Avenue School	Sabella Jones
Rosa Parks Community School	Jofren Romero Humal
Park Avenue School	Cecilia Noyola
STEM Innovation Academy of the Oranges	Saviour Ayim
Central Elementary School	Daniela Rodriguez

Scholarships Update

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District Goal Number 1&4 and All Sub Sections

Scholarship Update as of January 6, 2023

- This week, I requested scholarship totals for the Orange High School and STEM Innovation Academy of the Oranges. As shared previously, I will report out on scholarships, so the community and Board of Education are very much aware of information in real time.
 - OHS - \$3,476,963
 - STEM - \$1,085,453

Congratulations thus far to the Class of 2023 as well as our guidance, instructional, and administrative staff members for working so diligently with our scholars.

Last year, we amassed over 26 million dollars in scholarships district wide. We are well on our way....More to come!

Celebration of Our Board Member

January is Board Member Recognition Month



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Thank you to our Board of Education Members

- Citing the meaningful contributions that boards of education make to public education and to the quality of life in New Jersey, Gov. Phil Murphy proclaimed January 2021 as School Board Recognition Month in New Jersey. Guess what, we are in January, and it is important that we give thanks to our board of education.
- “New Jersey’s 5,000 local board of education members devote countless hours, without remuneration, to the oversight of school district operations, including finances, policy, curriculum and staffing,” the governor said. “New Jersey’s local boards of education endeavor to meet the challenges facing public schools and to help students attain the education necessary to excel in college and in the workplace and to enable them to compete in a global economy.”

Thank you to our Board of Education Members

- “By making meaningful contributions to public education, the dedicated members of local school boards have greatly enhanced the quality of life in our State,” the governor’s proclamation said.
- “The state’s local boards of education set the goals and provide oversight for the entire school district,” explained Michael McClure, president of the New Jersey School Boards Association. “The hard work and dedication of school boards have a direct impact on the classroom, and their efforts have helped make New Jersey’s public schools a national leader in student achievement.”

Thank you to our Board of Education Members

- “No other public official, elected or appointed, has a greater impact on the lives of children than the local school board member,” said Dr. Lawrence S. Feinsod, NJSBA executive director. “This year, boards of education in New Jersey overcame unimaginable challenges in continuing to provide instruction to students during the pandemic.”

We Salute our Board of Education Members

Board of Education Member SY 2022-23

- Mr. Armstrong
- Ms. Crockett
- Ms. Gravesande
- Mr. Henry

Board of Education Member SY 2022-23

- Ms. Johnson
- Mr. Sherif
- Mr. Tarver
- Dr. Turner
- Mr. Wingfield

District Goals for SY 22-23



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District Goal #1: 21st Century Integration

Overarching Overview of the Goal

Goal #1: 21st Century Integration The Orange Public Schools will continue to invest in its teachers. The district values and promotes a culture of excellence in teaching and learning through increased and improved opportunities for quality, sustained professional development that address district needs and individual school needs as outlined by data points. The emphasis has been on best practices in teaching and learning. As a result of the pandemic and performance on assessments, a continued understanding of providing targeted and intentional delivery of instruction is paramount district-wide.

1) Increase in the number of job-embedded professional learning opportunities that incorporate the expertise of building principals planning alongside district administration by 70% from SY 21-22

- Administrative Meetings will continue to be instructionally-focused learning sessions for principals and district administrators. Ultimately, all training sessions will be germane to data points resulting from walk-through trend analyses.
- Administrative meetings will continue to have instructionally focused agendas with accompanying sign in sheets. Meetings will take place for horizontal and vertical articulation supports to build content knowledge and pedagogy if applicable.

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2) By May 2023, 60% of students in each preparedness group will meet or exceed their assigned end of year growth target in mathematics.

- The assessments that will be used to measure progress towards the assigned growth targets include the iReady Diagnostic, NWEA MAP, District Benchmark Assessments, and select Performance Tasks in the area of Mathematics.
- The district will continue to report out all data in the area of mathematics in Curriculum Committee as per the assessment calendar as well as the Board of Education Meeting.

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3) By May 2023, 60% of students in each preparedness group will meet or exceed their assigned end of year growth target in ELA.

- The assessments that will be used to measure progress towards the assigned growth targets include the FRA, SRI, Insight, District Benchmarks, and Performance Tasks in the area of English Language Arts.
- The district will continue to report out all data in the area of English Language Arts in Curriculum Committee as per the assessment calendar as well as the Board of Education Meeting.

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4) By May 2023, 60% of students in each preparedness group will meet or exceed their assigned end of year growth target in Science.

- The assessments that will be used to measure progress towards the assigned growth targets include District Diagnostic and Benchmark assessments in the area of Science.
- The district will continue to report out all data in the area of Science in Curriculum Committee as per the assessment calendar as well as the Board of Education Meeting.

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5) By June 2023, 5% increases across all areas on the New Jersey Student Learning Assessment (Mathematics, Science, and English Language Arts) and the New Jersey Graduation Proficiency Assessment (Mathematics and English Language Arts) at the high school level.

- The district will provide assessments to prepare students and staff for the high stakes assessment.
- Review of data from the last year's assessment in public as well as during several points throughout the year.

District Goal #2: Community Engagement

Overarching Overview of the Goal:

Goal #2: Community Engagement

The Orange Public Schools will continue a system of consistent communication system for disseminating and receiving information between school administration, teachers, staff, students, parents, and the community.

1) Increase the timeliness, access, and effectiveness of all communication with all stakeholders via multiple measures by 60% from the previous school year (the previous year was at a 50% increase.) With the year after returning to school five days per week, it is important to provide in the moment information to families

- Social Media Platforms & Website (Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter)-Utilize the platforms for immediate news-worthy information as well as the district website via the latest news and announcements section.
- RoboCalls via School Wires at the district and school levels; we are incorporating more text to speech and emails for as well as translated versions of all messages both district and at the school level.

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- Superintendent's Report (online access to staff and community stakeholders) the day immediately following the board meeting by noon.
- Routine face-to-face opportunities to engage with community and stakeholders via PTO, Back to School Nights, Report Card Conference Nights, Community Events within Orange Township as well as partnership meetings based on those established and forthcoming within the school district. We will continue the parent and student councils at the Superintendent's Level.
- Provide Bilingual Supports for all families to ensure their engagement within the school district via translations, translator supports, and district as well as social level meetings.

District Goal #2: Community Engagement

Overarching Overview of the Goal:

Goal #2: Community Engagement

The Orange Public Schools will continue a system of consistent communication system for disseminating and receiving information between school administration, teachers, staff, students, parents, and the community.

2) Increase the use of emerging and available communications outlets to transmit information by 40% (Last Year the Percentage was at 30%)

- Partner with universities (local and throughout the state) in order to get information to prospective candidates for job fairs and other industry level announcements. We will conduct virtual and in person job fairs as well to widen the search for potential candidates outside of the University realm.
- Continue to utilize the Orange Public School App for more timeless information.
- Continue to utilize the Emergency Pop Up on the website for transmitting important, time sensitive information weekly.
- Provide Translations on all documents that are disseminated from schools and district offices.

District Goal #2: Community Engagement

Overarching Overview of the Goal:

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The Orange Public Schools will continue a system of consistent communication system for disseminating and receiving information between school administration, teachers, staff, students, parents, and the community.

3) Continue Parent and Student Councils at the Superintendent's Level

- Have monthly meetings with parents and students about academics as well as self-care supports; student council meetings will take place separately from the parent council.
- Continue the Bilingual Parent Advisory and ensure that the meetings are quarterly.
- Continue the Special Education Advisory Council Meetings and ensure that the meetings take place quarterly.
- Continue the Early Childhood Advisory Council Meetings and ensure that the meetings take place quarterly.
- Establish the Nutrition Advisory Council alongside school level student councils. Ensure that the meetings take place quarterly.

District Goal #3: Facilities and Finance

Overarching Overview of the Goal: The Orange Public Schools will continue to redesign the fiscal management, operations, and human resources of the organization to ensure a system of accountability, transparency, and efficiency for the optimal delivery of services.

1) Create a district budget under constraints that accommodates and supports the needs of central office departments, all schools and students while sustaining systems that have yielded results through a strategic assessment of data

- Analyze and clarify how all budgeted funds are allocated and expended at the department and school levels.
- Examine and evaluate contracted services provided to the district and continuously improve effectiveness.
- Identify and execute capital projects (short term/long term, prioritized, and categorized on the basis of need.)
- The transfer of moneys from account lines on the district level will decrease by 20% from the previous school year.

District Goal #3: Facilities and Finance

Overarching Overview of the Goal: : The Orange Public Schools will continue to redesign the fiscal management, operations, and human resources of the organization to ensure a system of accountability, transparency, and efficiency for the optimal delivery of services.

2) Implement innovations that empower teaching and learning as well as efficiently allocate funding within their locations

- Continue to monitor the new budgeting module My Budget File to ensure adherence to staff and federal mandates.
- Create a long-term and short-term facilities development plan to outfit buildings district wide in the effort of expanding programming throughout the school district. These plans will be presented at the Facilities and Finance Committee Meetings as well as via the Regular Board of Education Meeting.

District Goal #4: Social and Emotional Supports

Overarching Overview of the Goal: The Orange Public Schools will continue to ensure that all students will receive social and emotional support to become adaptable, confident citizens who embody self-awareness and strong interpersonal skills, and who are capable of responsible decision-making and managing their emotions and behaviors.

1) Provide research-based curriculum to strengthen students' social/emotional relationships

- Continue to utilize Restorative Practices as a means of providing effective supports to students in the effort of problem solving. This includes at both the elementary and secondary levels.
- Continue the monitoring of mental health to provide students another avenue to combat social-emotional concerns and thus remediate areas of deficiency related to mental health.

2) Enhance community-based partnerships in order to assist students and families

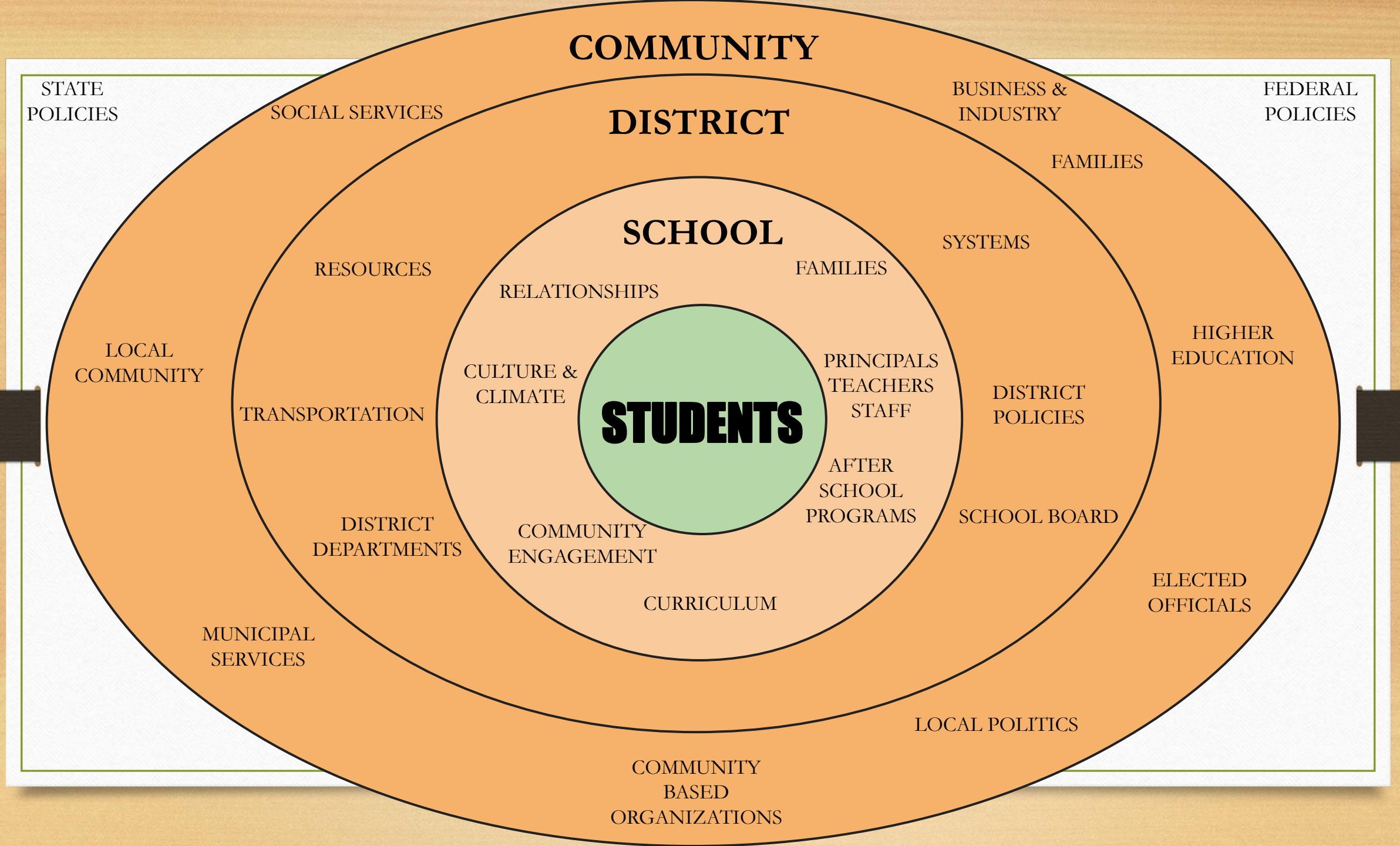
- Continue to utilize the District's community engagement officer as well as community school liaisons to assist school-based staff with establishing partnerships to support families and students and thus have a vehicle to support families Pre-K through Twelve.
- Provide self-care supports for students and families based on surveys (conducted twice per year) as well as discussion with support staff members including the Superintendent's Trauma Informed Team.

District Goal #4: Social and Emotional Supports

Overarching Overview of the Goal: The Orange Public Schools will continue to ensure that all students will receive social and emotional support to become adaptable, confident citizens who embody self-awareness and strong interpersonal skills, and who are capable of responsible decision-making and managing their emotions and behaviors.

3) Improvement of Student Attendance from Pre-Kindergarten to Grade Twelve

- By May 2023 students with severe and chronic absences will decrease by 30% through shared expectations, shared support and shared accountability by all stakeholders (parents, students and school staff)



Attendance Presentation from the Month of December 2022



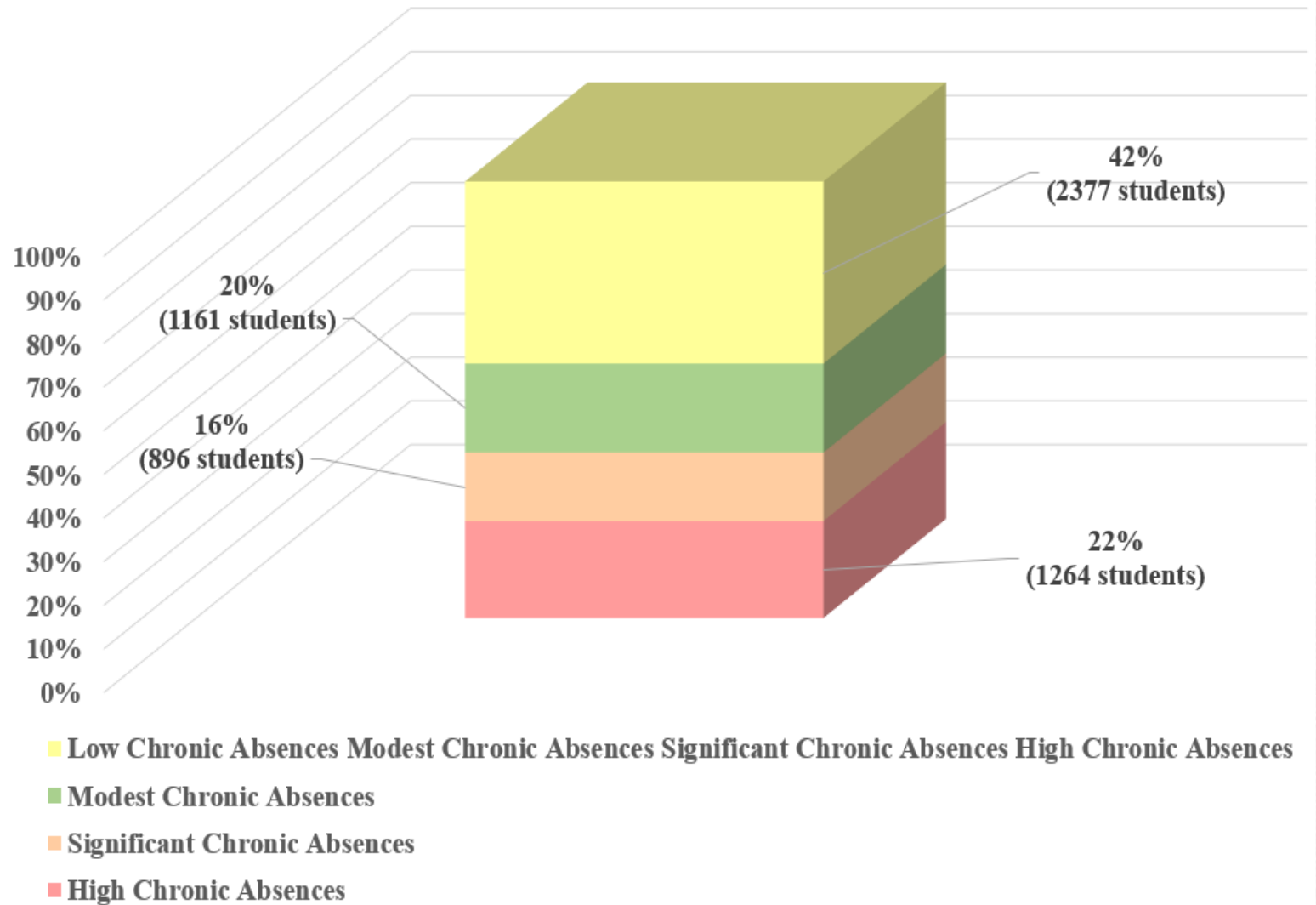
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Superintendent of Schools
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January 11, 2023
Focus Core Area Number 1-4
District Goal Number 1-4

Chronically
Absence
Categories
are Identified
As:

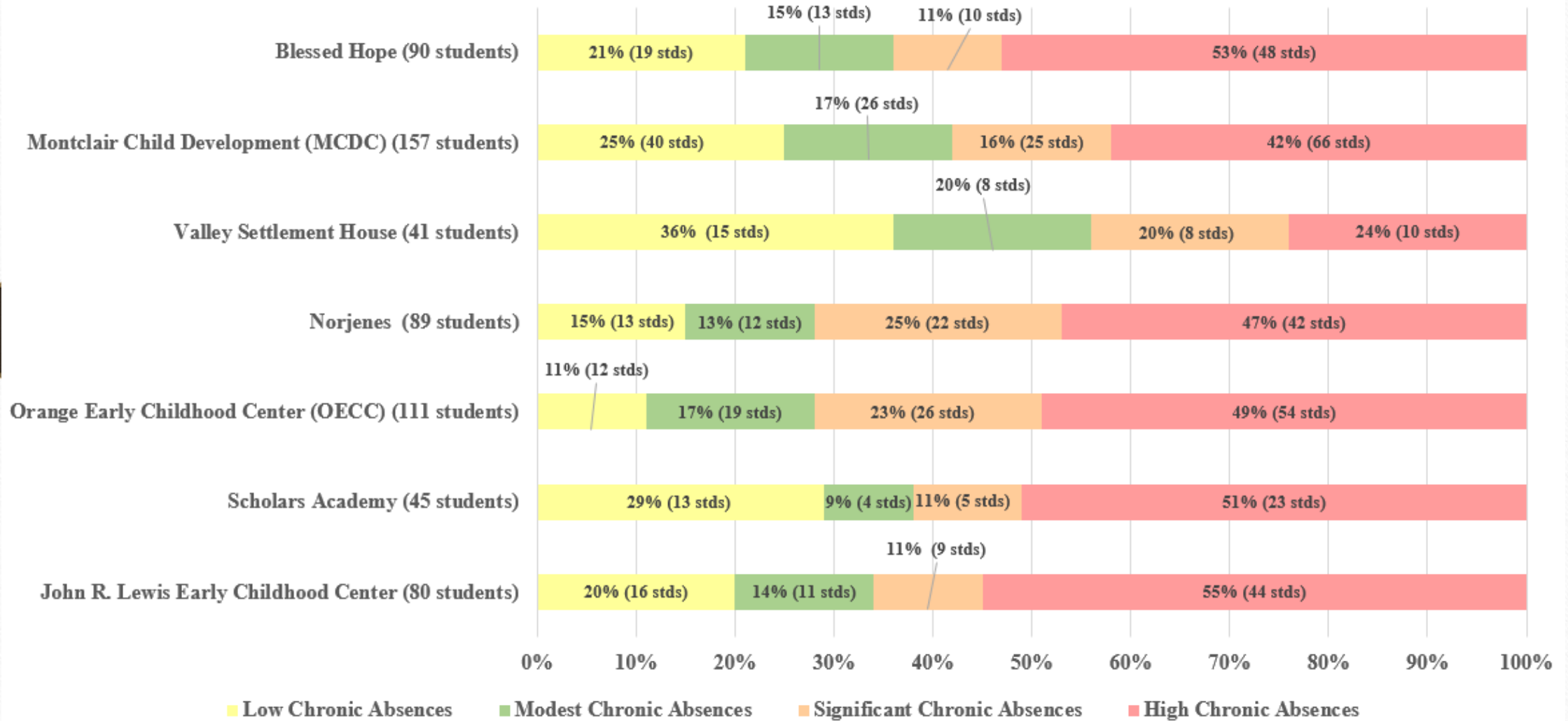
Absences Category	Cumulative Days Absent for the Month of December 2022
Low Chronic Absences	0 to 2.99 days
Modest Chronic Absences	3 to 4.99 days
Significant Chronic Absences	5 to 6.99 days
High Chronic Absences	7 days or more

*Students are chronically absent when excused or unexcused absences are equal to or greater than 10% of the total number of days enrolled in the school year.

Cumulative Absences for the Month of December by Category



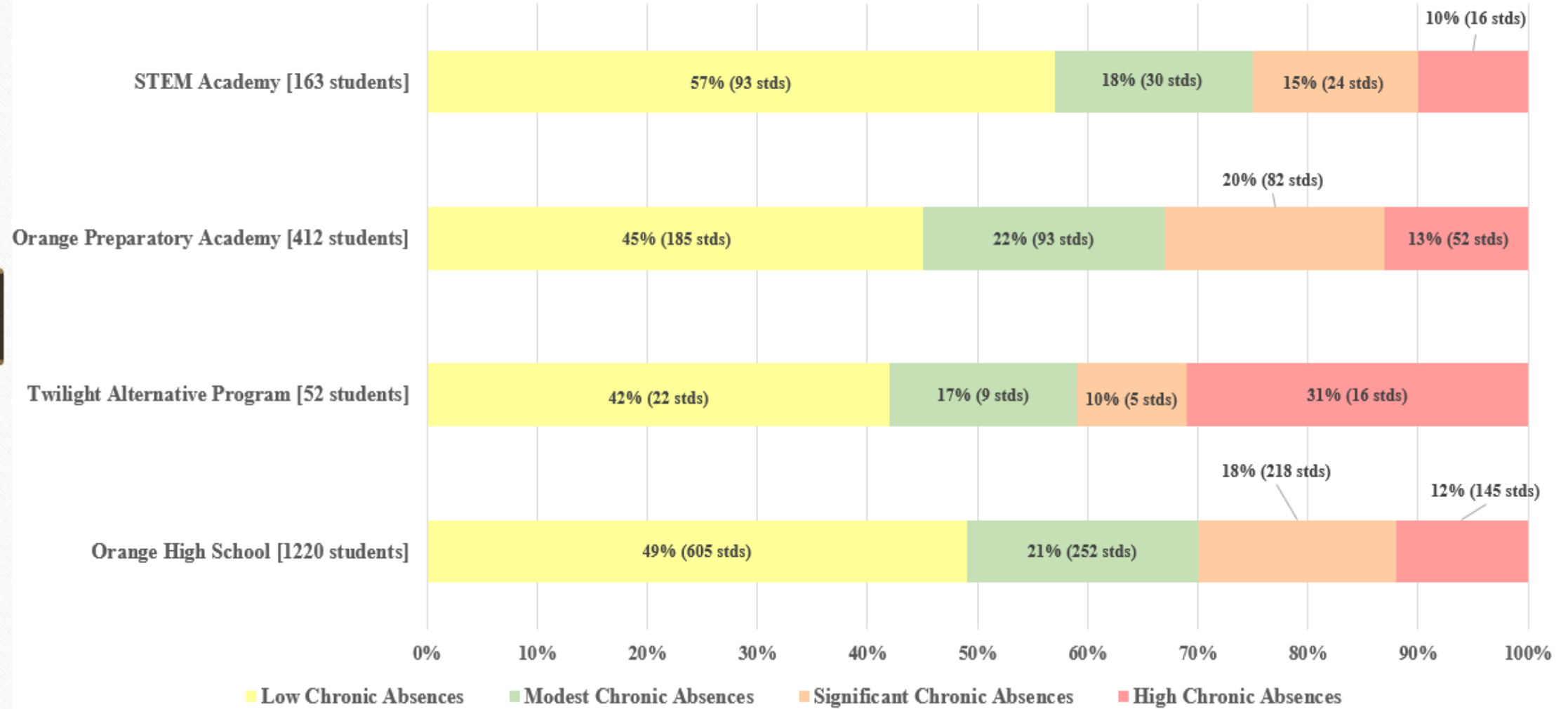
Cumulative Absences by School for the Month of December Early Childhood Program



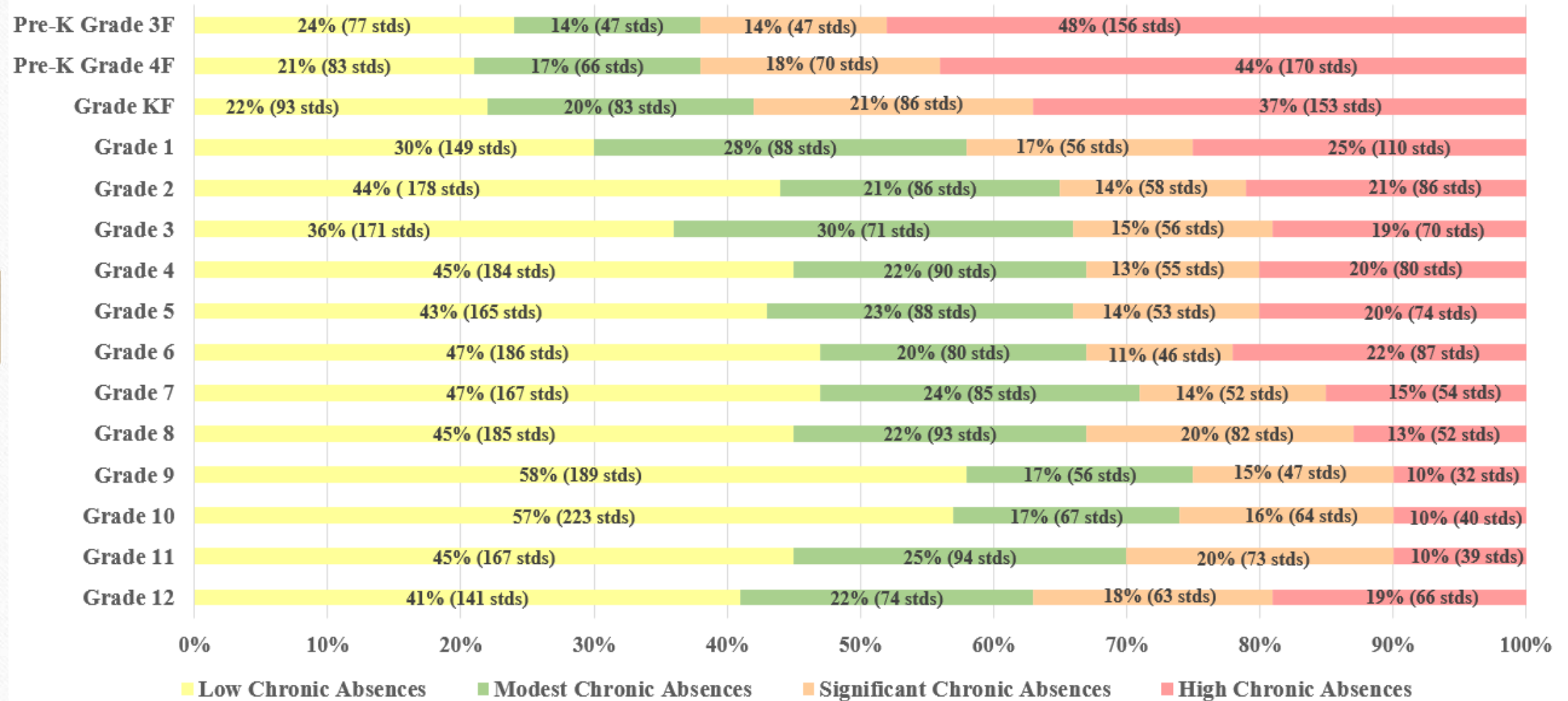
Cumulative Absences by School for the Month of December Kindergarten through Grade 7



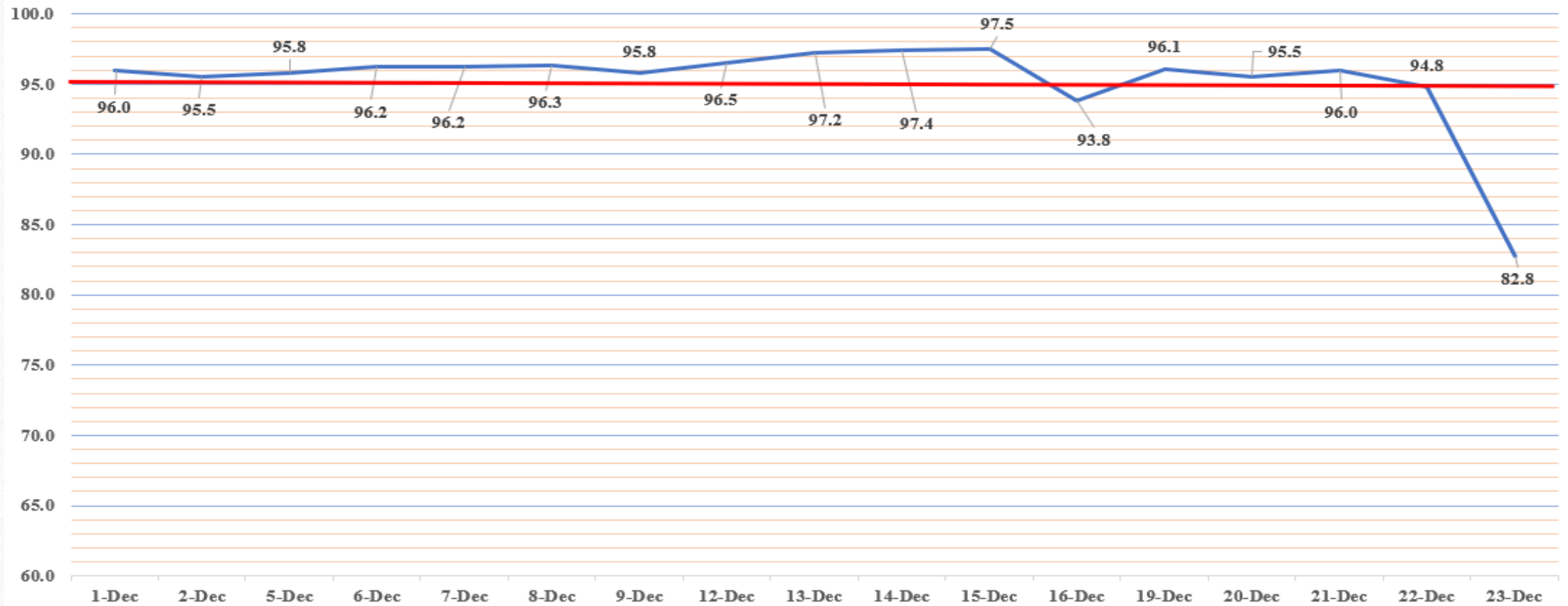
**Cumulative Absences by School for the Month of December
Grades 8 through 12**



Cumulative Absences for the Month of December by Grade Level



December 2022
Average Daily Attendance Percentages
***State Average is 95%**
District Average Daily Attendance was 95%



The Orange Public Schools Facilities Update



Mr. Jason Ballard
School Business Administrator
&
Mr. Vasquez
Manager of Facilities
January 11, 2023
Focus Core Area Number 1-4
District Goal Number 3

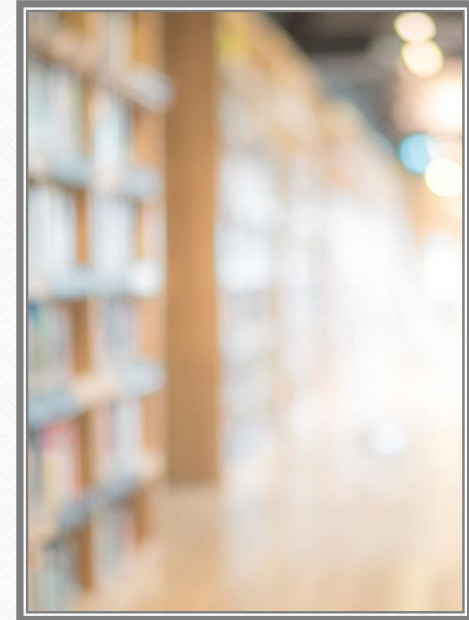
District Facility Maintenance & Custodial Services Updates

- **Thorough Cleaning Daily and Disinfecting of all touch point in the building (examples include but not limited to: Door handles, bathrooms, entrances, and exits, bannisters)**
- **Walk-through of all school district facilities**
- **PCI and District Meetings based on Updates related to COVID-19 mandates and expectations**
- **Facility projects continued so we can Ensure a safe and clean learning environment for our children and staff.**
- **Preparation for the winter months.**



Orange High School

- During last school year, the orange high school media center had to be used as an area for students to eat as the cafeteria was under construction. As a result, the carpet and chairs needed to be cleaned. The next few slides will show you some before and after pictures.



Orange High School





Orange High School

Orange Preparatory Academy of Inquiry and Innovation

- In room B16 we re-directed the copper pipe to go outside to prevent any further flooding in the room due to heavy rain.



Orange Preparatory Academy of Inquiry and Innovation

- It was reported to the facilities team that there was a steam leak in Room 201. the steam leak was preventing the SDA and TCC to lay down the new floor in the room .



Forest Street Community School

- It was report to the facilities team that we had a leak in one of our TCU's (Trailer that houses pre-kindergarten.) The team and I investigated the issue and addressed it immediately.



Orange Board Of Education

- Workorders are being entered into Brightly (work order reporting system) from classroom lights being out to steam pipes breaking. The team and I under the guidance of Mr. Ballard will continue to address all issues as they are entered into the system. In doing as such, we can Ensure that we have a safe and clean learning environment for our children and staff.

In the Month of January 2023

- The team and I under the direction of Mr. Ballard, will continue to meet with the Schools Development Authority and Terminal Construction to make sure that there is progress as it relates to the construction (Renovation Project) at Orange High school.

District Updates

Page Turners has RETURNED: Help promote literacy throughout the City of Orange Township! Students, staff

- Students, parents, employees, city residents, and local businesses join our quest to read 1.5 million pages from Thanksgiving to May Day (May 1st).
- The challenge is back. Are you ready to log those pages?
- But first you have to register. Use this link <https://www.orange.k12.nj.us/Page/28187> or go to the Orange Page Turners' Reading Challenge webpages. Sign- up and watch our video. I know that we can make it when everyone joins in to participate.
- Brought to you by the collaborative efforts of The Orange Township Public School District; City of Orange; Scholastic Inc., ValleyArts Inc., HANDS Inc., North Jersey Alumnae Chapter Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc., Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., Eta Pi Chapter

New Monthly Board Meeting Dates

- **In the effort of gathering more community input, the Board of Education has elected to visit several school locations. The Board of Education Meetings take place the second Tuesday of each month. Further, meetings begin at 6:00 PM for Roll Call. The board members alongside members of the Superintendent's Team will retreat into Executive Session from 6:05 PM to 6:45 PM the earliest and 7:30 PM the latest. Next month, the board meeting will take place at Oakwood Avenue Community School in the Gymnasium on Wednesday, February 11, 2023.**

Board Meeting New Dates

2023 Board of Education Business Meeting Schedule

- Wednesday, January 11, 2023
- Wednesday, February 15, 2023
- Wednesday, March 15, 2023
- Wednesday, April 12, 2023
- Wednesday, May 10, 2023
- Wednesday, June 14, 2023
- Wednesday, July 12, 2023
- Wednesday, August 9, 2023
- Wednesday, September 13, 2023
- Wednesday, October 11, 2023
- Wednesday, November 15, 2023
- Wednesday, December 13, 2023
- ***Wednesday, January 3, 2024 - Organization Meeting**

Young Men's Conference

- In celebration of National Mentoring Month, Orange Public Schools, in collaboration with Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., Eta Pi Chapter, Kappa Alpha Psi, Fraternity, Inc., Maplewood-Oranges (NJ) Alumni Chapter, Cleo Clicks, Inc., and the Greater Essex Community Uplift Foundation, present the "Mentoring Matters: Male Youth Conference," on Saturday, January 21, 2023, 10:00 am - 1:00 pm at Orange High School (400 Lincoln Avenue, Orange, NJ). The program will offer opportunities for male students in grades 7 - 12 to participate in career readiness workshops facilitated by professionals, including Entertainment, Entrepreneurship, Gaming, and more! Students will have an opportunity to participate in a Dress for Success Neck-Tie Competition. Lunch, Music, and a Free Raffle will be available to the first 50 students who register! To register, scan the QR code on the flyer (which is on the district website www.orange.k12.nj.us. or on our social media handles) or visit <https://bit.ly/3v9FbXS>.


Reminder School Closure Days Forthcoming

- Monday, January 16th, Schools and the District Office will be closed in Observance of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday
 - Winter Recess: February 20th through February 24th

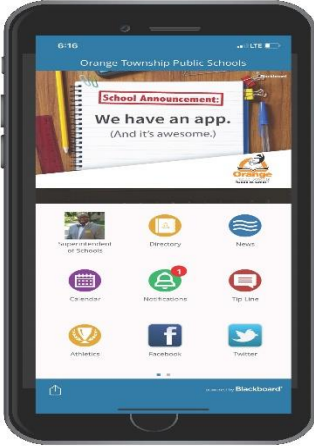
Schools and the District Office will be closed during this time. The district will reopen on Monday, February 27, 2023, at regular time.





Reminder: The Orange App
Have you signed up?
You know I am sending blasts out for folks to sign up...Stay Tuned



Announcing the NEW Orange Public Schools Mobile App!





Designed specifically to keep you better informed, in REAL time!

Available for Apple and Android devices.

The app is **FREE** and available for **download today. You are encouraged to sign up.**

Download the new app in 3 easy steps:

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2. Search **Orange Public Schools**
3. Then select our **Orange Public Schools** app for free download

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Social Media Hashtags:

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#MovingintoGreatness

#OrangeStrong

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