

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

Gerald Fitzhugh, II, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools
“The Teaching Superintendent”
May 10, 2022

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



Celebration of Students

Student of the Month Announcement

Gerald Fitzhugh, II, Ed.D.
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Focus Core Area Numbers 1 & 2
District Goal Number 1&4 and All Sub Sections



Students of the Month

April 2022

Congratulations to our STAR Students!

Name of School	Student of the Month
Orange High School	Sarah Polidor Grade Ten
Orange Preparatory Academy	Sydney Hutchins Grade Nine
Twilight U	Makiel McNeil Grade Twelve
Cleveland Street School	Nye'la Adkins Grade One
Forest Street School	Malidjeen Severe Grade Five
Heywood Avenue School	Rodney Louilus Grade One

Name of School	Student of the Month
Lincoln Avenue School	Ayana Louis Grade Six
Oakwood Avenue School	Grace Melgar Ramos Grade Seven
Rosa Parks Community School	Franco Chumil Grade Seven
Park Avenue School	Diego Ludizaca Grade Kindergarten
STEM Innovation Academy of the Oranges	Alyssa Cruz Grade Nine
Central Elementary School	Mia Guaman Martinez Grade Two



Celebration of STEM Innovation Academy of the Oranges

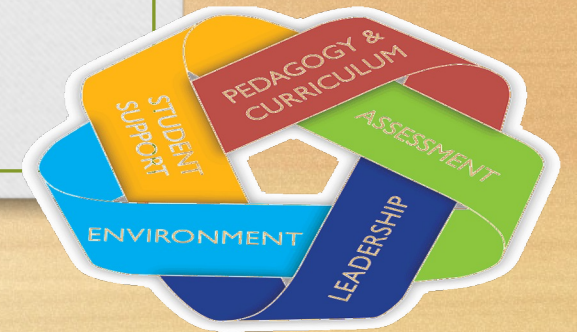
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Forest Street Community School
2022 National Beacon
Blue Ribbon School

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Universal School Mask Mandate

Governor Murphy recently shared that the Universal School Mask Mandate is set to end on March 7, 2022, in the State of New Jersey for students, staff, and visitors. School districts have been given the autonomy to make the decision to continue with the current mask mandate, limit mask usage, or end mask usage altogether.

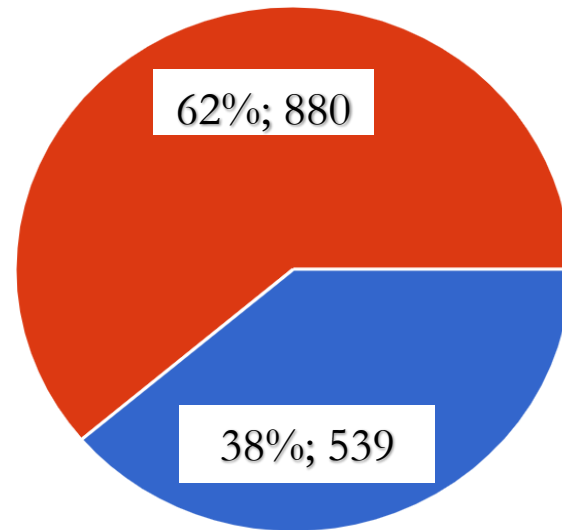
The District developed and disseminated survey in English, Spanish, and Haitian/Creole to capture stakeholder input.

Opened: April 29, 2022

Closed: May 2, 2022

1,419 Survey Participants

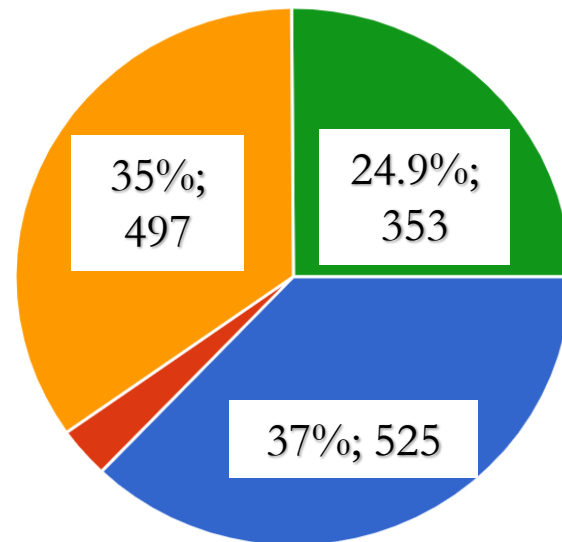
Which best describes you?



- Staff Member within the Orange Public Schools
- Parent of an Orange Public School's student

Current Vaccination Status

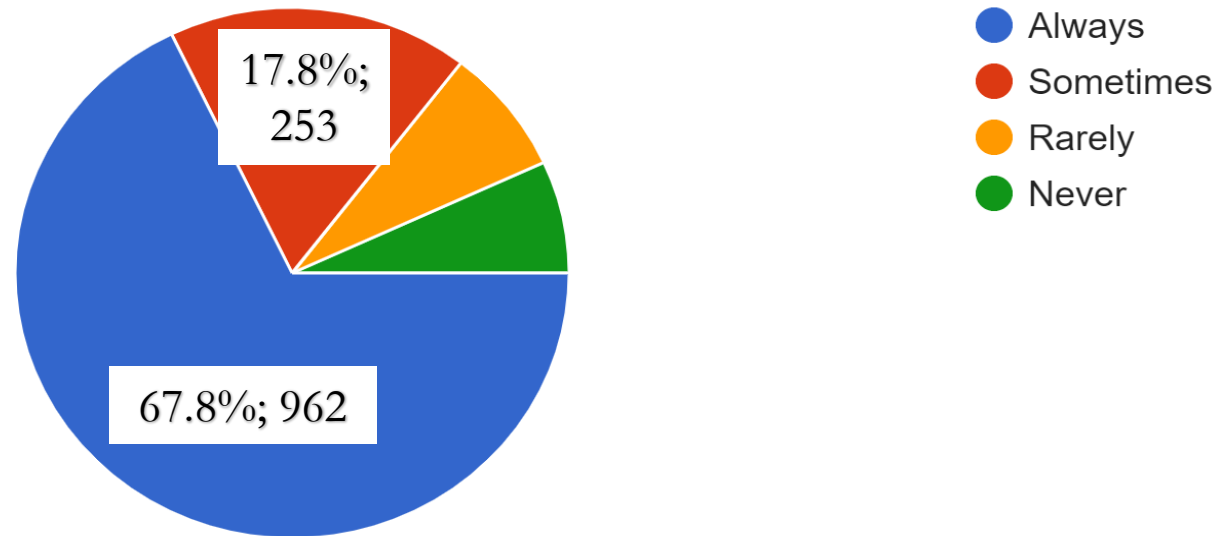
What is your/your children's current vaccination status?



- Unvaccinated
- Partially Vaccinated (1 shot)
- Fully Vaccinated (2 shots)
- Fully Vaccinated Plus Booster

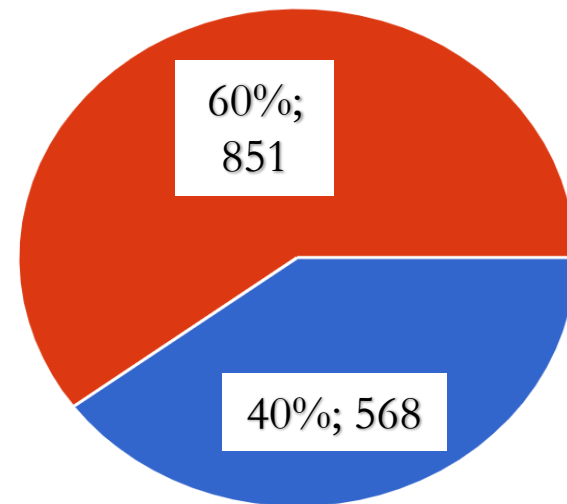
Current Mask-wearing Behavior

How often do you/your children wear masks in public/group settings?



Mask Mandate Should Be Lifted: 40%

I agree that the Universal School Mask mandate should be lifted in the coming days (staff and students will not be required to wear masks regardless of vaccination status).

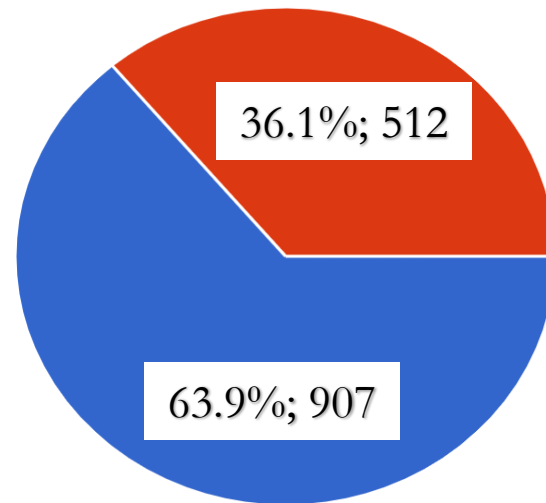


- True
- False

up 10% from February survey

Masks Should Continue: 63.9%

The Universal School Mask mandate should not be lifted in the coming days (staff and students should continue to be required to wear masks regardless of vaccination status).



- True
- False

down 7% from February Survey

The Orange Public Schools Facilities Update



Jason Ballard
School Business Administrator
May 10, 2022
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, as well as bannisters)



Minor and major repairs to our heating units and pumps



Walk-through of all school district facilities



PCI and District Meetings based on Updates related to COVID-19 mandates and expectations



Spring Clean up

Oakwood Avenue School

- The district were no longer using the TCU's for instructional purposes. So, during spring break, the district removed the TCU's from in front of Oakwood Avenue School. The following slides will show you some before and after pictures.



Oakwood Avenue school

TCU's before demolition



Oakwood Avenue School

TCU's during demolition



Oakwood Avenue School

Demolition completed

Orange High School

- The next few slides will show the progress of the renovation of the cafeteria and the old media center. We are certainly making gains in this area.



Orange High School

Original café work in progress



Orange High School

Updated Photos of the renovation of the cafeteria.



Orange High School

These are updated photos of the conversion of the old media center into new cafeteria.



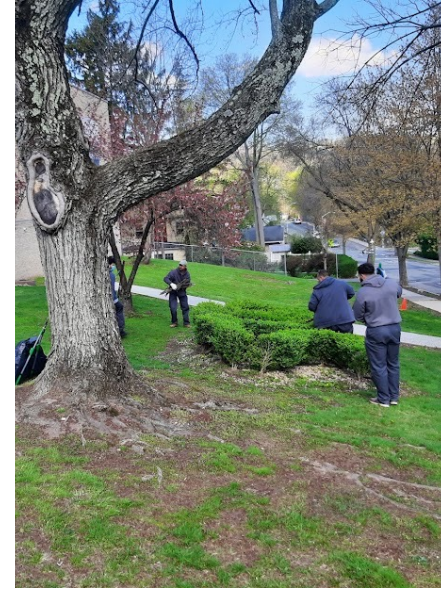
Orange High School/Orange Preparatory academy-The Campus

The bridge that connects Orange High School and Orange Preparatory Academy is almost complete.

District Spring Clean-up

DURING SPRING BREAK, WE STARTED OUR SPRING CLEAN UP NOT ONLY INSIDE THE BUILDINGS BUT THE OUTSIDE. THE TEAM DID SOME LANDSCAPING, PAINTING, AND EVEN PLANTED TREES.

DURING SPRING BREAK, THE DISTRICT HAD PCI DO A THOROUGH CLEANING AND DISINFECTING OF ALL DISTRICT PROPERTIES. WHY? WE WANTED TO ENSURE A CLEAN AND SAFE RETURN OF OUR STUDENTS AND STAFF.



Spring Clean-up

The slides show spring clean up at varying locations throughout the district.

In the Month of May 2022

- The team and I alongside the Manager of Security will continue to meet with the Schools Development Authority and Terminal Construction to keep the district up to date with the ongoing progress at the Orange HS renovation project.

Reminder from the Office of Facilities

- We will continue to update the community, staff, and Board of Education Members of all progress.
- The health and safety of staff and students are at the apex of all facilities undertakings.

Attendance Presentation from the Month of April 2022



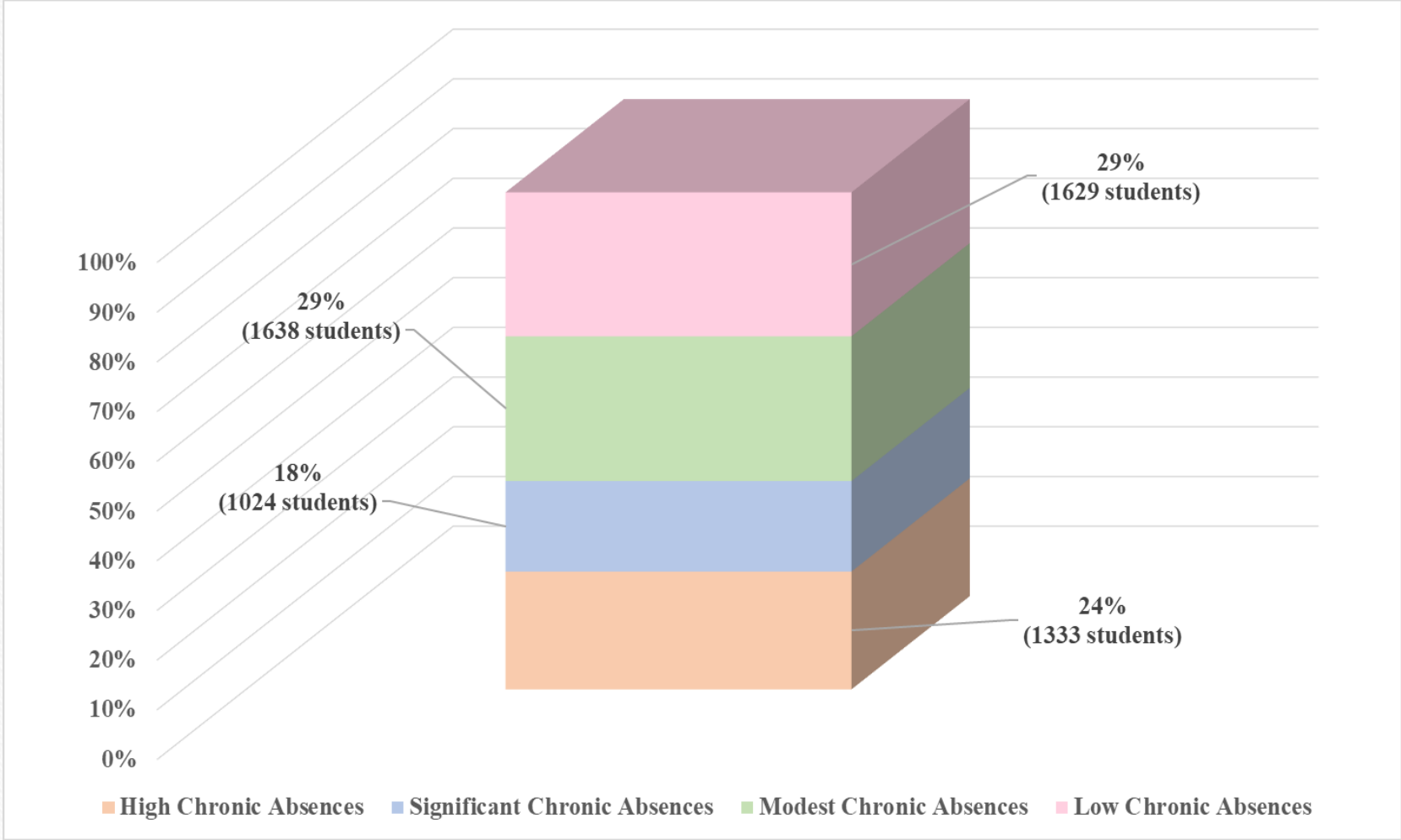
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District Goal Number 1-4

Chronically
Absence
Categories
are
Identified As:

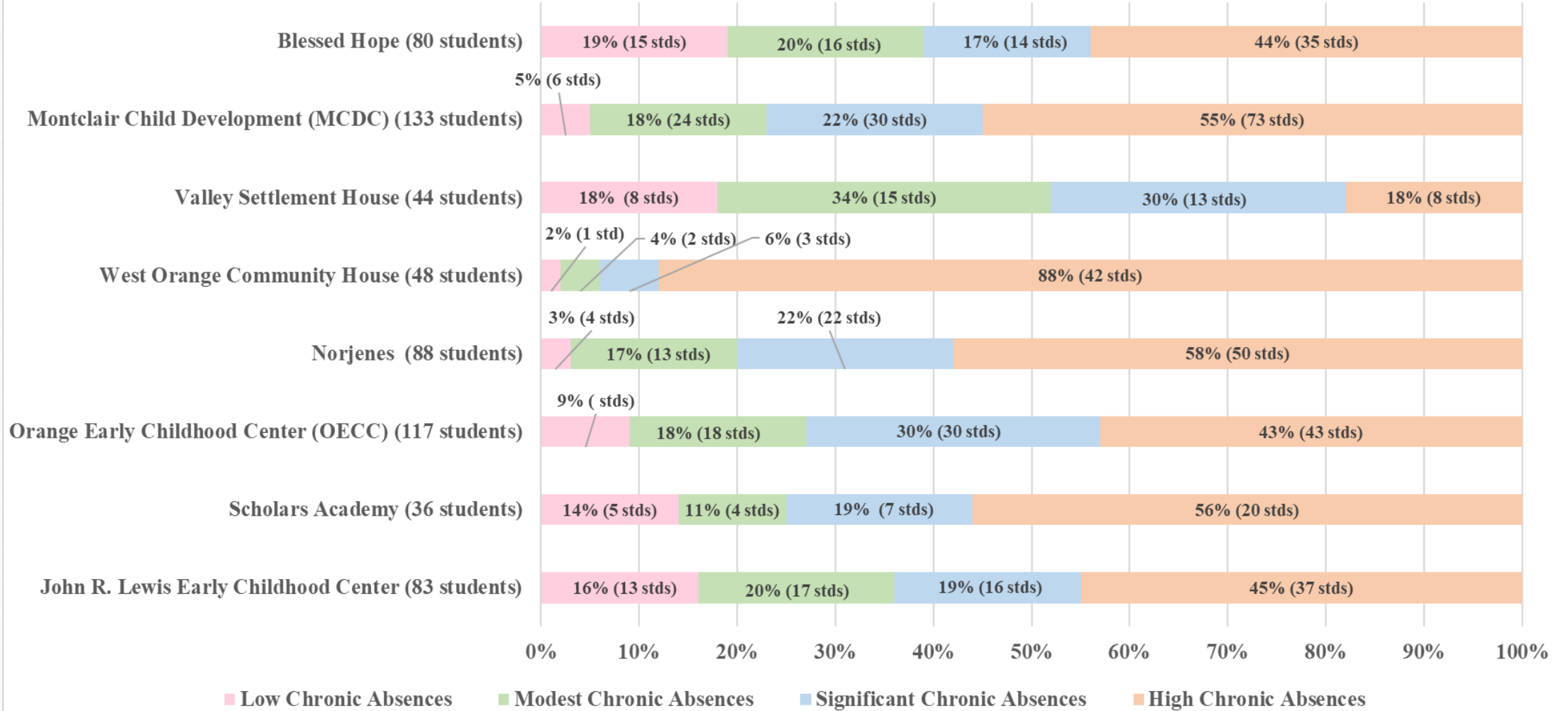
Absences Category	Cumulative Days Absent for the Month of April
High Chronic Absences	14 days or more
Significant Chronic Absences	9 to 13.99 days
Modest Chronic Absences	4 to 8.99 days
Low Chronic Absences	0 to 3.99 days

*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.

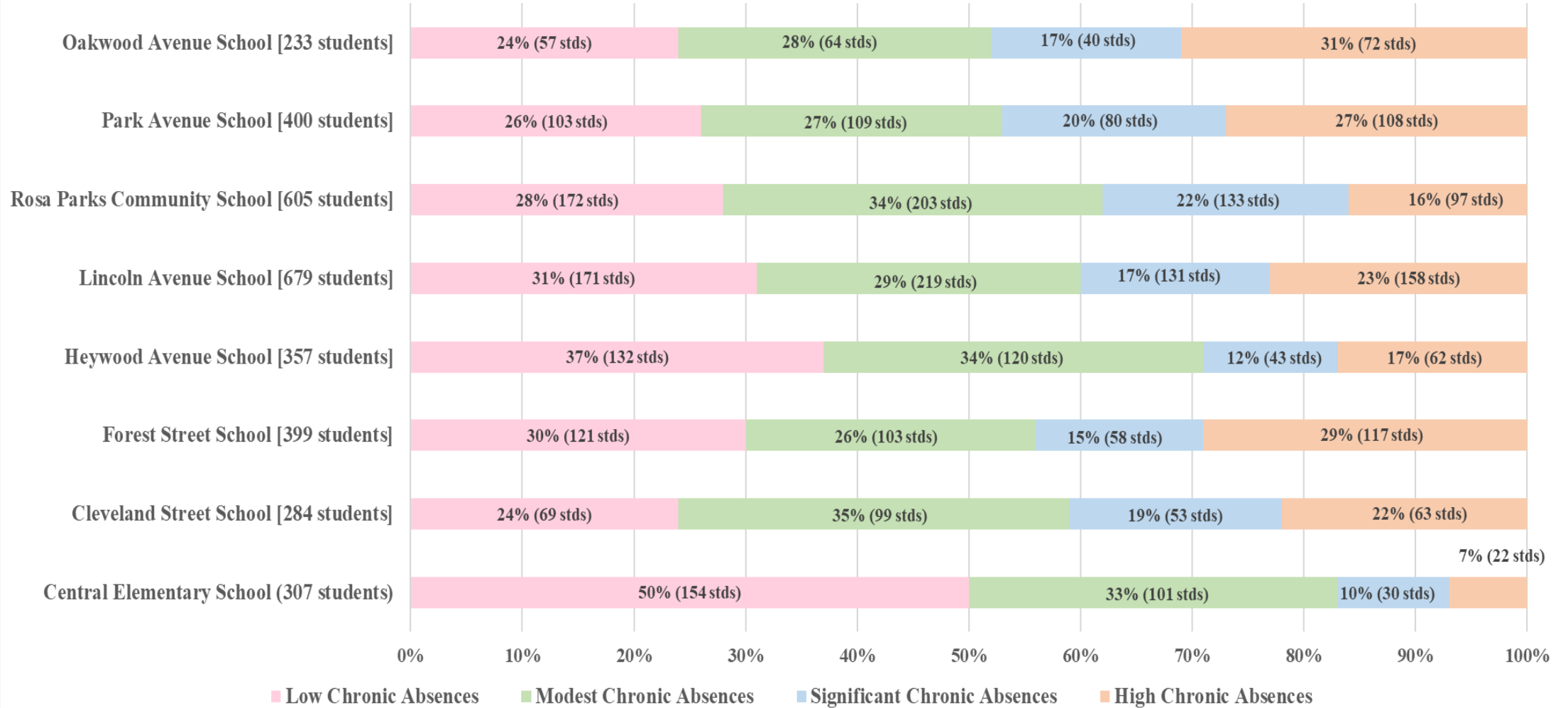
Cumulative Absences for the Month of April by Category



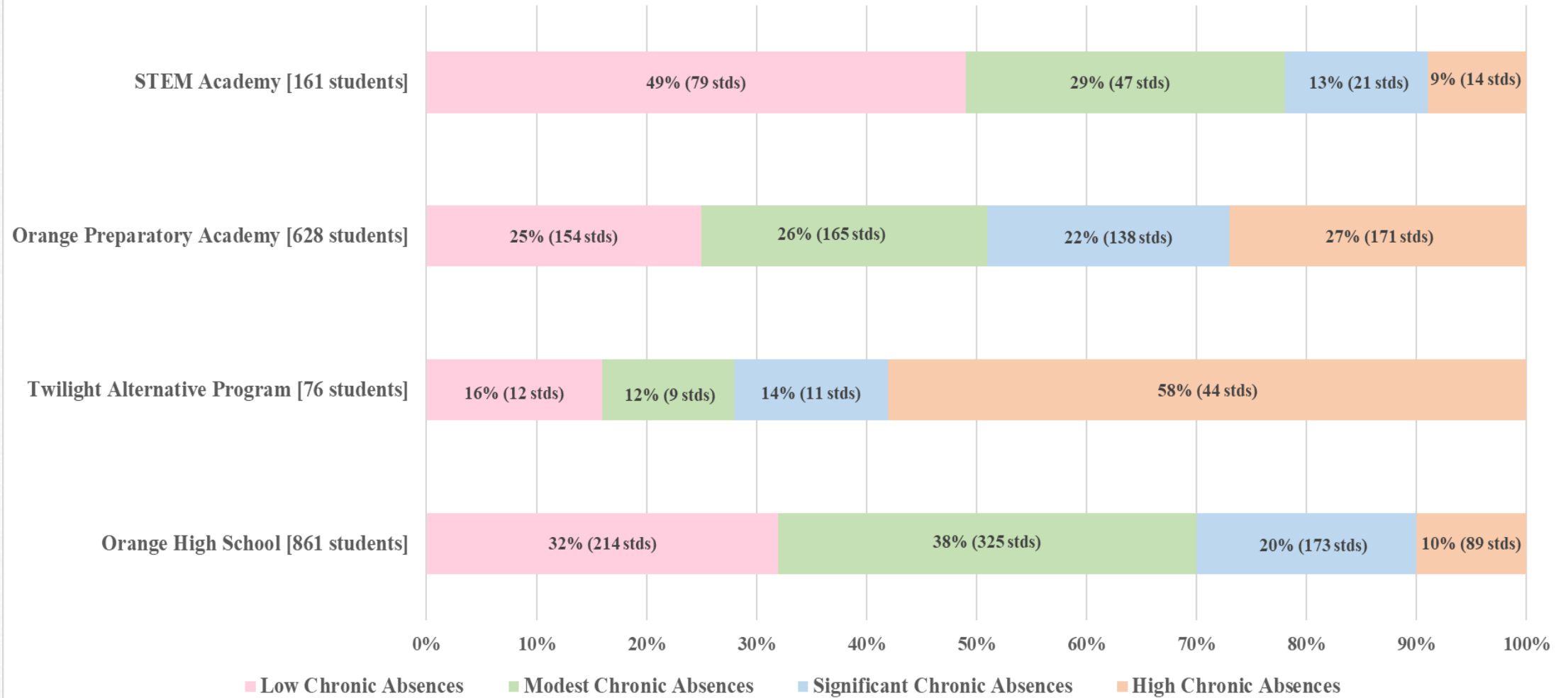
Cumulative Absences by School for the Month of April Early Childhood Program



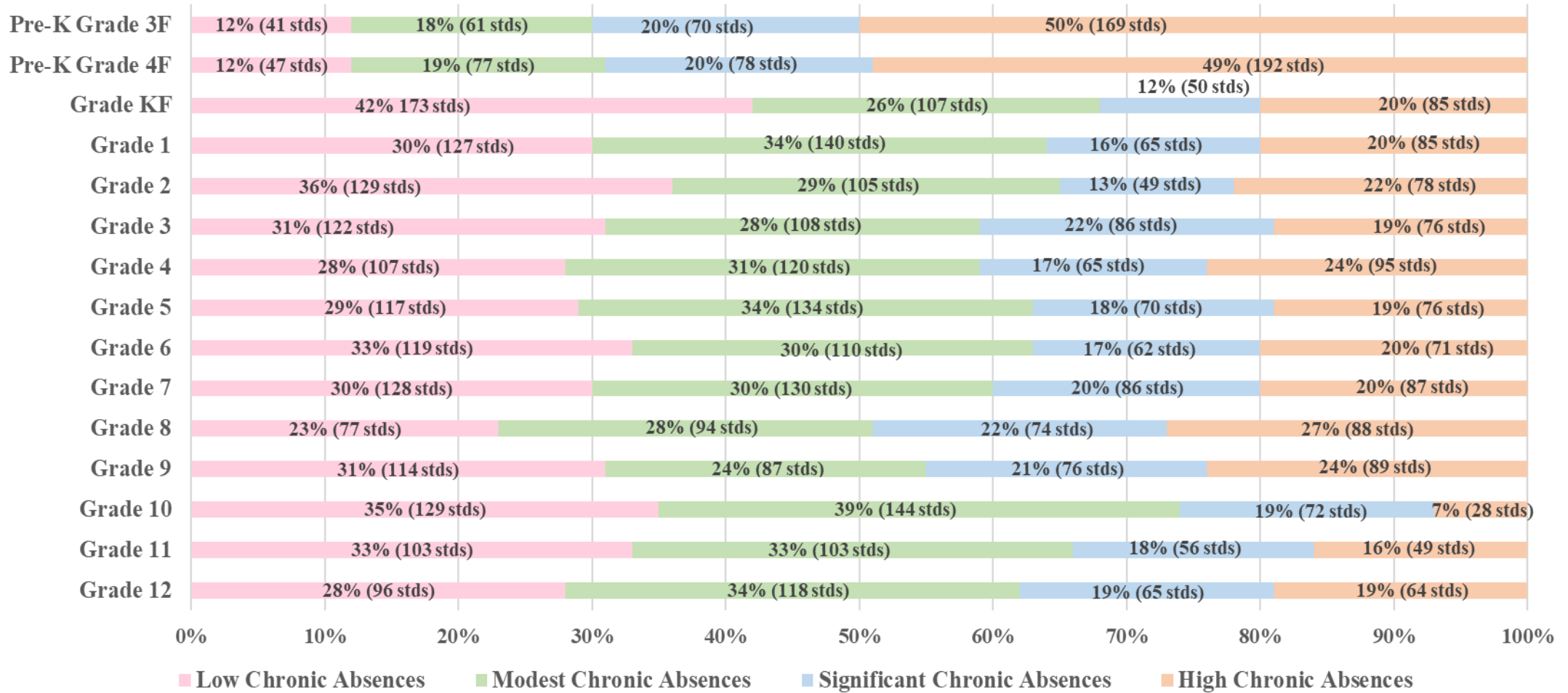
Cumulative Absences by School for the Month of April Kindergarten through Grade 7



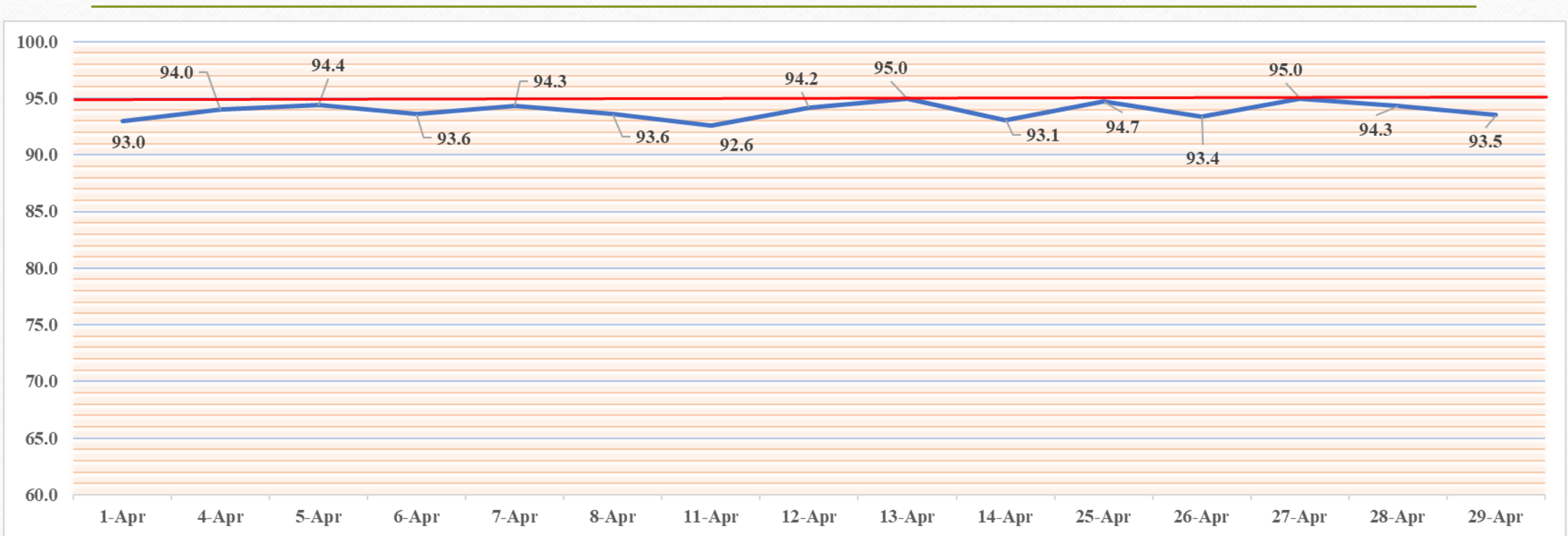
Cumulative Absences by School for the Month of April Grades 8 through 12



Cumulative Absences for the Month of April by Grade Level



April 2022
Average Daily Attendance Percentages
***State Average is 95%**
District Average Daily Attendance was 95%
**District Spring Break from April 18 – 22, 2022*



Summer School Programs for Students and Curriculum Writing/Professional Development for Staff

The Orange Public School District invites parents of our students to visit the following link to register your child for the robust summer programs that we are offering from coding, to Summer Break Through Programs, and Algebra Intensive Courses. I am certain that our families will see the instructional push that we have provided for our students. Registration closes May 31, 2022.

Staff, if you are interested in Professional Development workshops as well as Curriculum Writing, you are encouraged to click on the link shared to apply.

<https://sites.google.com/orange.k12.nj.us/summer-programming-2022/districtwide-programs>



Summer School Offerings

- **School Based Programs**

- Academic Support and Enrichment

- **Districtwide Programs**

- ELA/ Mathematics Support
- Visual & Performing Arts Camps
- ESL Support
- Special Education Supports
- Bilingual Support
- Preschool Programming
- STEM Camps
- CTE Camps

- **Professional Development**

- Across All Areas

- **Curriculum Writing**

- Across All Areas



Teacher's Appreciation Week

Teachers' Appreciation Week: The Orange Public School District celebrates the important work of the teachers in our school district. The Week of May 2nd began the beginning of Teachers' Appreciation Week. Activities were planned throughout the district to celebrate our teachers. It is important that we thank our teachers for their hard work and dedication. Thank you to our stellar Orange Public School District Teachers!



Nurse's Appreciation Week

Nurses' Appreciation Week: Beginning on May 6, 2022, and concluding on May 12, 2022, the Orange Public School District celebrates our nurses. Nurses provide a level of care on many levels. Nurses are medical professionals, but they serve in so many more capacities. We will celebrate our nurses this upcoming week as well. Join me in thanking our stellar school nurses.



Reminder School Closure Days and Proposed Change in Calendar for SY 21- 22

- One of the additional snow days will be used on Friday, May 27, 2022. All schools and the district office will be closed on that day.
- The second snow day give back will be announced in the Superintendent's Weekly Update letter for planning purposes. So, a sneak peak: Monday, June 6, 2022.



Parent University Programs Continue

The Parent University is a series of free and reduced-price workshops running now through June. This program offers parents a wide range of experiences across various topics from Study Skills Seminars designed to give parents academic strategies to parent wellness workshops and job placement and certification offerings. Courses will be accessible to parents via our online registration system. We invite parents, families, and Orange community members interested in attending the workshops to apply. Families, take a moment to register for this upcoming weekend. The level of learning is phenomenal. We listened and knew these workshops were of importance to you. Please use the following link to register for the great workshops and programs being offered

<https://sites.google.com/orange.k12.nj.us/parentuniversity/home>.



Kindergarten Orientation

Kindergarten Orientation: Thank you to all our school level staff and families who participated in Kindergarten Orientation either in person or virtually this week. It is so important to have opportunities for our incoming kindergarten parents to engage with our building level staff. The presentations were robust and aligned to our strategic plan and district goals. All power points from each presentation have been loaded onto individual school websites. All kindergarten orientation meetings took place the Week of May 2nd.



Orange Preparatory Academy Redesign Series

As shared at the March Board of Education Meeting, in order to create a sound Grade Eight Academy, we want to hear from you. The following meeting dates will take place in the gymnasium at Lincoln Avenue School:

April 5, 2022 (The first meeting was such a success!)

April 28, 2022 (The second meeting was fantastic)

May 12, 2022 (The final meeting)

All meetings will begin at 6:00 PM in the Lincoln School Gymnasium. Families, you are encouraged to attend all three sessions as one session builds from the previous. We need all of your support as we transform Orange Preparatory into a Grade Eight Academy. As we did with the strategic plan, breakout sessions will take place in order for us to delve a bit into the following:



Senior Academic Scholars Banquet

Senior Academic Scholars Banquet:

Special congratulations to the seniors who were recognized as top of their respective classes from STEM Innovation Academy of the Oranges, Orange High School, and the Twilight Program. Join me in congratulating from Orange High School: Omenma Abengowe and Jhasmin Lopez. At STEM Innovation Academy of the Oranges let's congratulate: Shandi Chung and Gianina Maldonado. Finally, at the Twilight Program let's congratulate Makai Scott-Foote and Bryan Johnson. The banquet was held on Wednesday, May 4, 2022, at Nanina's in the Park.



Scholarship Announcement

Senior Class OHS

At the end of last week, I requested scholarship totals for the Orange High School Class of 2022. The last time I reported out on scholarships, at the February Meeting, the total amount of scholarships garnered was \$ 5,214,112.00. Today, the scholarships garnered is at \$14,586,940.00. Schools that students at this time and date have been accepted into are: Harvard University, Ramapo College, Rider University, Rutgers University, Seton Hall University, West Virginia University, Albright College, and University of Hartford to name a few.

Scholarship Announcement

Senior Class STEM

- At the end of last week, I requested scholarship totals for STEM Innovation Academy of the Oranges Class of 2022. The last time I reported out on scholarships, at the February Meeting, the total amount of scholarships garnered was \$3,302,000.00. Today, the scholarships garnered is at \$8,813,208.00. Schools students at this time and date have been accepted into are: Mercy College, Franklin Pierce University, New Jersey Institute of Technology, Seton Hall University, Massachusetts Institute of Technology to name a few.

Scholarship Announcement

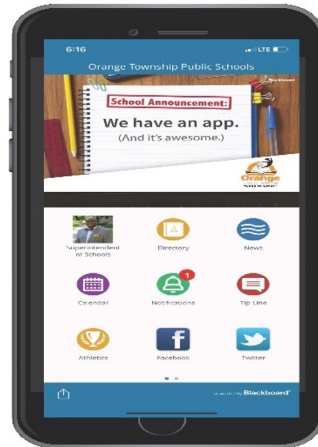
Senior Class STEM and Senior Class OHS

- **Orange High School: \$12,099,300.00**
- **STEM Innovation Academy of the Oranges: \$8,701,208.00**
- **There is still time for additional scholarship opportunities for our seniors. Next month, I will share the final totals prior to graduation.**
- **As of now we are at \$20,800,508.00**
- **Last year's total was: \$24,899,890.00**
- **Last Year Orange High School amassed \$16,872,994.00 in scholarships**
- **Last Year STEM amassed \$8,026,896.00 in scholarships.**

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:

1. On your smartphone, go to the iTunes App Store® or Google Play®
2. Search **Orange Public Schools**
3. Then select our **Orange Public Schools** app for free download

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