

# June Superintendent's Update Orange Public Schools “Good to Great”



Gerald Fitzhugh, II, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools  
“The Teaching Superintendent”  
June 9, 2020

# District Updates

- This past week and continuing into this week, we had a full social studies staff meeting separated by K-5 and 6-12. Below is my email to the staff as it related to the national outcry regarding the protests occurring around the world. It is important that the students receive the correct information and as a team, we worked collectively to be the ones that educated as well as leaned on one another during these difficult times. The conversations and the creation of activities and discussions for our students are so very important. You would be proud of how the staff asked great questions and stayed united.

# District Updates

- On Friday, June 5<sup>th</sup> we held a virtual district moment of silence in response to the deaths of Broenna Taylor, Ahmad Arbery, and most recently George Floyd. As educators, it is important that we understand the complexity of our reality and that of our students. It is important to teach our students the history behind their identity, the language behind their culture, and the geography from where they came.
- In the effort of providing support, we have our social workers as well as guidance counselors in readiness as always. On the instructional end, we are preparing lessons that will allow us to engage with our students across the district. This time is far too critical but the messaging is even more important.
- As members of the Orange Township Public Schools, we need to keep in mind that we are far stronger together than when we are apart. We know we will get through all of this and thrive if we commit to working together, to support the lives of our students. We must hold our heads up high, take each other's hands, and move forward into a better future. Dr. Fitzhugh

# District News

- This week is Virtual Orange Week!!! Some of the following are the activities for the Orange Virtual Week:
- VPA Festival Virtually (June 8<sup>th</sup> through June 12<sup>th</sup>)
- Food Distribution at Rosa Parks (Wednesday, June 10<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM)
- The Census Creative Arts Winners will be announced on Friday, June 12<sup>th</sup>
- Virtual Multicultural Day by way of Forest Street Community School on Friday June 12<sup>th</sup> at 3:30 PM.

# District News

- You are encouraged to visit our website at [www.orange.k12.nj.us](http://www.orange.k12.nj.us) to see all of the events taking place this week. This flyer is located under district news and announcements.
- This week marked **Week 4** our Mathematics **Problem of the Week** competition. Below are the winners. The Mathematics Team sent emails to all of the teachers as well sharing the winning solutions in addition to virtual certificates for the winning students. We are truly engaging our students! Congratulations to all of our winners! Look out for Week 5's winners.

# District News

- As you know, our pre-kindergarten families want to engage with our schools as they are entering the district in September. We are having virtual kindergarten orientation meetings with our families. We began hosting these meeting this week and will continue into the upcoming week as well as next week. We are excited to continue engaging with our families and providing information to them that will allow the parents to know we are all in this together. The parents have shared that they like the conversations as well as the forward thinking of the district.

# Reminder: Pre-Kindergarten Registration June 1<sup>st</sup> through June 10<sup>th</sup> Virtually



**SPECIAL NEEDS & ELL SERVICES**  
**HIGH SCOPE CURRICULUM**  
**CERTIFIED & TRAINED STAFF**  
**MIDDLE STATES ACCREDITED**  
**AND A LOT MORE...**

**Email contact: [prekindergartenregistration@orange.k12.nj.us](mailto:prekindergartenregistration@orange.k12.nj.us)**

**Preschool Virtual Registration**



# Virtual Graduation Activities

- The Orange High School Administrative Team and I have been in communication regarding virtual graduation for our Seniors. We have communicated via Zoom and will announce information very soon.
- Moving Up Ceremonies at the Elementary Schools: The same as Orange High School, we are in the planning stages but will update everyone in a letter very soon!



# Information Leading Up to the Health Related Closure as well as Other Supports

- In my continued discussions with the technology coordinators and the Supervisor of the department, only the STEM Innovation Academy of the Oranges students have the computers whereby they take them home so that number is 133, in addition, based on the information gathered 1,046 chrome books have been distributed as of April 21st and as of April 24th, 150 chrome books were distributed and final another 55 chromebooks on April 28th and the 93 given out on May 5th and 104 on May 12th; 23 given out on May 23rd; 20 chromebooks given out on May 28th, and finally 56 chromebooks given out on June 2nd bringing our grand total to 1,547.

# Governor Murphy Announced that School Buildings Are to Remain Closed

- On Monday, May 4, 2020, Governor Phil Murphy ordered the closure of all NJ schools through the end of SY 2019-2020. We have worked diligently to ensure that we had two very important components: Synchronous and asynchronous learning. As we know, synchronous learning is real time; in the moment teaching. The asynchronous approach is taped lessons with corresponding questions and assignments.
- We will continue to keep you abreast through our communication platforms via the district website as well as our social media handles regarding any academic or operational updates.

# Governor Murphy Announced that School Buildings Are to Remain Closed

- For further supports, please be reminded that we created an email address [distancelearningquestions@orange.k12.nj.us](mailto:distancelearningquestions@orange.k12.nj.us) for questions or concerns during this pandemic period as it relates to instructional or technology concerns. If there are also concerns regarding mental or self-care supports, you can also email us. We will need your child's school, teacher's name, as well as your contact information. Always remember, you should always contact your child's teacher and/or principal as the first line of support.
- It is encouraged that you continue to visit our district COVID-19 Resources Tab on the district website [www.orange.k12.nj.us](http://www.orange.k12.nj.us) for additional resources for families on mental health as well as updates on self care for students, families, and staff. We have posted instructional supports within the COVID-19 Resource Tab for your assistance. As you are aware, we update our COVID-19 Resource Tab weekly in the effort of providing further supports for our school community.

# Participation Rates from the Week of May 25<sup>th</sup>

- Rosa Parks 77%
- Cleveland 76%
- STEM 86%
- OHS 78%
- OPA 96%
- Forest 84%
- Heywood 83%

# Participation Rates from the Week of May 25<sup>th</sup>

- Oakwood 78%
- OECC: 80%
- Montclair Child Development Center 92%
- Valley Settlement House 78%
- West Orange Community House 92%
- Blessed Hope 85%
- Norjenes 83%

# Supports for the School Community

- Administrators, teachers, and support staff calling parents 1) to make appointments for chrome book pick up 2) to keep students on track as it relates to completion of assignments and providing supports 3) to check in on staff through common planning meetings done virtually to keep with the academic and social emotional acumen of the school district. Notes are captured in Genesis as required by the Superintendent of Schools.
- Teachers are tracking student completion of assignments-calling families to remind them of the 180 School Year Requirement. In addition, teachers have two sets of Office Hours to provide additional academic supports.
- Guidance Counselors and Social Workers are providing services through Google Meet with students. Notes of calls and support are captured in Genesis.
- The Superintendent has a Trauma Informed Team (Meeting Dates were as follows: March 25<sup>th</sup> and April 2<sup>nd</sup>, April 8, 2020, April 22, 2020, May 6<sup>th</sup>, May 13<sup>th</sup>, May 20<sup>th</sup> and June 3<sup>rd</sup>. All meetings are virtual through Zoom set up by the Superintendent of Schools. Emails are exchanged to chronicle the action steps of the team to provide staff with ongoing supports.

# Breakfast/Lunch Grab and Go Program

- The Breakfast and Lunch Bag and Go Program continues to be evident in 8 locations within the Orange Township Public School District:
- Lincoln, Rosa Parks, Cleveland, Oakwood, Park, OECC, Heywood, and Forest Schools
- Students can report to any of the locations district wide to receive breakfast and lunch accordingly
- We had Orange High School, Newcomers, and Orange Preparatory Academy locations condensed as of Friday, March 27<sup>th</sup> due to the lack of participation at those locations.
- The total amount of breakfast/lunch grab and go distributed meals as of Friday, June 5, 2020 was 33,366! We will continue to push this program.

# Social Emotional Supports

- Social Emotional Supports during this time is critical to the landscape of the distance learning plan.
- The following information for additional supports outside of the school through our social media handles as well as website and staff communication to families: Mental Health Resources-To access mental health services contact Performcare at 1-877-652-7624. Website is [performcare.org](https://www.performcare.org).
- To get immediate assistance with an emergent mental health crisis: Contact 911 or go to your nearest hospital. The listed hospitals scripted were as follows: Mountainside Hospital, East Orange General Hospital, and Clara Maass Medical Center



# Social Emotional Supports

Information to speak with a counselor 24 hours a day; information below can assist accordingly:

- Suicide Prevention Hotline: 1-800-273-8255
- NJ Hope Line: 1-855-654-6735
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Teen Helpline: 1-888-222-2228

## Social Emotional Supports Given to Staff

\*Note: Information is Also Available on the COVID-19 Resource Page-  
Also Please Reference the Updated Resource List

The following links have been given to staff during this pandemic for support for families and students as well as self care for the staff (Articles and Workshops):

Newly Updated Samples on June 1,2020 we are currently updating our COVID resources for May. The Superintendent sent an email on June 2<sup>nd</sup> with the most up to date information to families and staff.

- It is encouraged that all staff and families consistently review the COVID-19 Master List of Resources....

# Maintaining Social-Emotional and Physical Well Being

The following were tips for students that we posted and provided to families:

- Keep a schedule-wake up at the same time everyday
- Have meals at the same time everyday
- Share kindness with friends on social media platforms; continue interactions as this time can be deemed as lonely
- Relax: Listen to music, write poetry, draw, read, talk to friends and family

# Directory for Additional Supports

- Directory to Contact School Guidance Counselors & Social Workers (Social Emotional Supports/Trauma), Nurses (Medical), and Child Study Team Members (Special Services):
- <https://www.orange.k12.nj.us/Page/24120>
- We provided this scaffold to families in the effort of providing additional supports through this time.

# Instructional Supports during the Health Related School Closure

- It is important for parents and students accessing our various virtual learning sites across schools, teachers, grade levels, departments, and content areas to have consistency in the process. The process for navigating to a teacher's emergency Extended Learning Resources page (for at-home instruction) is as follows:
- Visit the school website -- Faculty -- (select the teacher) – Extended Learning tab (or content is located directly on teacher's homepage).

# Interfacing with the Website for Instructional Purposes



**HEYWOOD AVENUE SCHOOL**  
421 Heywood Avenue, Orange, NJ. 07050

[DISTRICT HOME](#) [SCHOOLS](#) [LANGUAGE](#) [USERS](#)

[Home](#) > [Faculty](#) > [Whitley, Dallis Science 5-7](#) > [Welcome](#)

## WHITLEY, DALLIS SCIENCE 5-7

- > [Welcome](#)
- > [Extended Learning](#)




Thank you for **Pausing for a Moment of Science!**


My name is Dallis D. Whitley. I am the science teacher for grades 5-7 at Heywood Avenue School. I love what I teach and hope that my love of the sciences motivates my students to take risks, explore and question the world around them with an **infinite curiosity**. Grades 5-7 typically cover various aspects

# Interfacing with the Website for Instructional Purpose

Resources Staff Information Policies Parents & Students Calendar



**Dallis The Science Diva**



Middle School Science Teacher  
Grades 5-7  
whitleda@orange.k12.nj.us  
Virtual Office Hours  
M-F 9-10:30am  
M-F 3:30-5pm  
Assignments will be posted on Google Classroom  
Google Classroom Codes (by Homeroom)  
Sutton **eg2hyfi**  
Molano **qo4jwpt**  
Brower **rczttzp**  
Whitley **pzeci46**  
Tague **dq2qvya**  
Nickerson **azz2ewo**

Nickerson azz2ewo

Tague dq2qvya

# Providing Directions and Supports

- Ms. Whitley from Heywood Avenue providing supports to students as the process began.

<https://youtu.be/p9bmo2cPhDo>



# Interfacing with the Website for Instructional Purposes

Home » Faculty » Canares, Brian (Social Studies 5-7) » Extended Learning Plan

## CANARES, BRIAN (SOCIAL STUDIES 5-7)

» Extended Learning Plan

### *The Orange Public Schools Expectations for Emergency At-home Instruction for Social Studies.*

First, you are to sign up for [REMIND](#) (You can also download the app). This is for both parents and students. If you have any questions regarding the work, please message me through here. Please sign up with the following class code:

5th Grade: 33ba89

6th Grade: f9ea3g

7th Grade: c2f3264

In addition, you are to check [Google Classroom](#) EVERY SINGLE DAY. I will have all assignments and information posted. You will be held accountable for all due dates!

*Please make sure to also check [mrcanares.edublogs.org](http://mrcanares.edublogs.org) daily! All updates and assignment information will be posted here!*

#### **MY OFFICE HOURS ARE AS FOLLOWS:**

**9:00 AM - 11:00 AM**

**1:00 PM - 3:00 PM**

*I will be available through [REMIND](#) or you can e-mail me at [canarebr@orange.k12.nj.us](mailto:canarebr@orange.k12.nj.us).*

*canarebr@orange.k12.nj.us*

*I will be available through REMIND or you can e-mail me at*

*9:00 AM - 3:00 PM*

# Interfacing with the Website for Instructional Purposes

› Printable Extended resources

› Extended Learning Read  
alouds

## Germs Are Not For Sharing

- What was the title of the story?
  - What do we do with our tissue when we are all done blowing/wiping our nose?
  - Before you eat lunch, what are you supposed to do with your hands?
- 

## If You Give A Pig A Pancake

- What Shape is a Pancake?
  - What color is the Pig?
  - Did the pig Walk in the door, or climb in the window?
  - Where did the Pig build her house?
- 

## Owl Babies

- What animal is in the story?
  - How many Owls are there?
  - What color is the mommy owl?
- 

## That's (Not) Mine

- What are the bears fighting over?
- What color is the big bear?
- What color is the little bear?
- What happens to the big bear when he sits on the Black chair?  
What does the Big bear use to tickle the little bear?

# An Example of a Read Aloud

**Germ's Are Not For Sharing:** The following story (link) and corresponding questions after the reading are to be discussed with the children:

[https://www.orange.k12.nj.us/cms/lib/NJ01000601/Centricity/Domain/2825/WIN\\_20200316\\_14\\_25\\_21\\_Pro.mp4](https://www.orange.k12.nj.us/cms/lib/NJ01000601/Centricity/Domain/2825/WIN_20200316_14_25_21_Pro.mp4)

## Questions

- What was the title of the story?
- What do we do with our issue when we are all done blowing/wiping our noses?
- Before you eat lunch, what are you supposed to do with your hands?

# Example of Student Work Samples

The Prince - Chapters 10 & 11

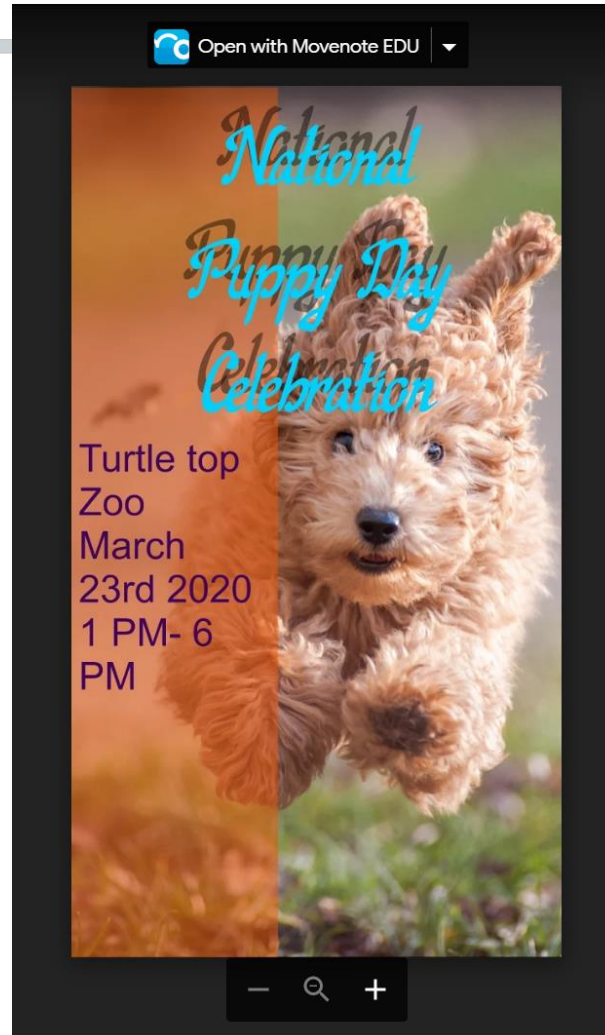
Quote	Response
<p>Chapter 10</p> <p>"And whoever shall fortify his town well, and shall have managed the other concerns of his subjects in the way stated above, and to be often repeated, will never be attacked without great caution, for men are always averse to enterprises where difficulties can be seen, and it will be seen not to be an easy thing to attack one who has his town well-fortified, and is not hated by his people" 66-67</p> <p>Key terms: fortify, caution</p>	<p>If a state "fortifies" or strengthens their country with defense, then people will attack them with great "caution" or they will be mindful of your power when attacking because they know that your state is very well protected. Machiavelli also says that prince who fortifies his town is not as easy to attack. I agree with this quote because if you put the time and effort into building a defense mechanism to protect you and your people then you will face less difficulties when others try to attack you because you are already prepared. This will also make you "not hated" by the people because they will know that you're protecting them and not just yourself.</p>
<p>"Therefore, a prince who has a strong city, and had not made himself odious, will not be attacked, or if anyone should attack he will only be driven off with disgrace" 67</p> <p>Key terms: odious, disgrace</p>	<p>A prince who has established a "strong" and stable city and has not made himself "odious" or hated by his own people should not have to worry about being attacked because he is on good terms and has done everything right. But if he is attacked they will be driven off with "disgrace" because there was no reason for the prince to be attacked in the first place so in this case the attacker is in the wrong. I feel as if this still applies today. We say to treat others with respect if we want the same in return and this is kind of similar because if we do everything correct and do nothing to start any problems then no one will have a reason to come and mess with you.</p>
<p>Chapter 11</p> <p>"These princes alone have states and do not defend them, and they have subjects and do not rule them; and the states, although unguarded, are not taken from them, and the subjects, although not ruled, do not care, and they have neither the desire nor the ability to alienate themselves. Such principalities only are secure and happy"</p> <p>Key terms: secure, happy</p>	<p>Machiavelli in this passage is talking about ecclesiastical principalities which are principalities that relate to the Christian Church. The reason why these types of principalities don't need to be guarded or ruled over is because the religion of Christianity already does that so the prince does not have to. I agree that these principalities are typically "secure" and "happy" because they obey God and will do what he bible says without question. They</p>

have no problem with following his rules because they believe that's what they're meant to do. But if a random prince were to control them then they would have a problem because they don't see any prince even near to the level God is at.

Questions/Comments: It took me a while to fully understand these two chapters but now I think I get what Machiavelli was saying.

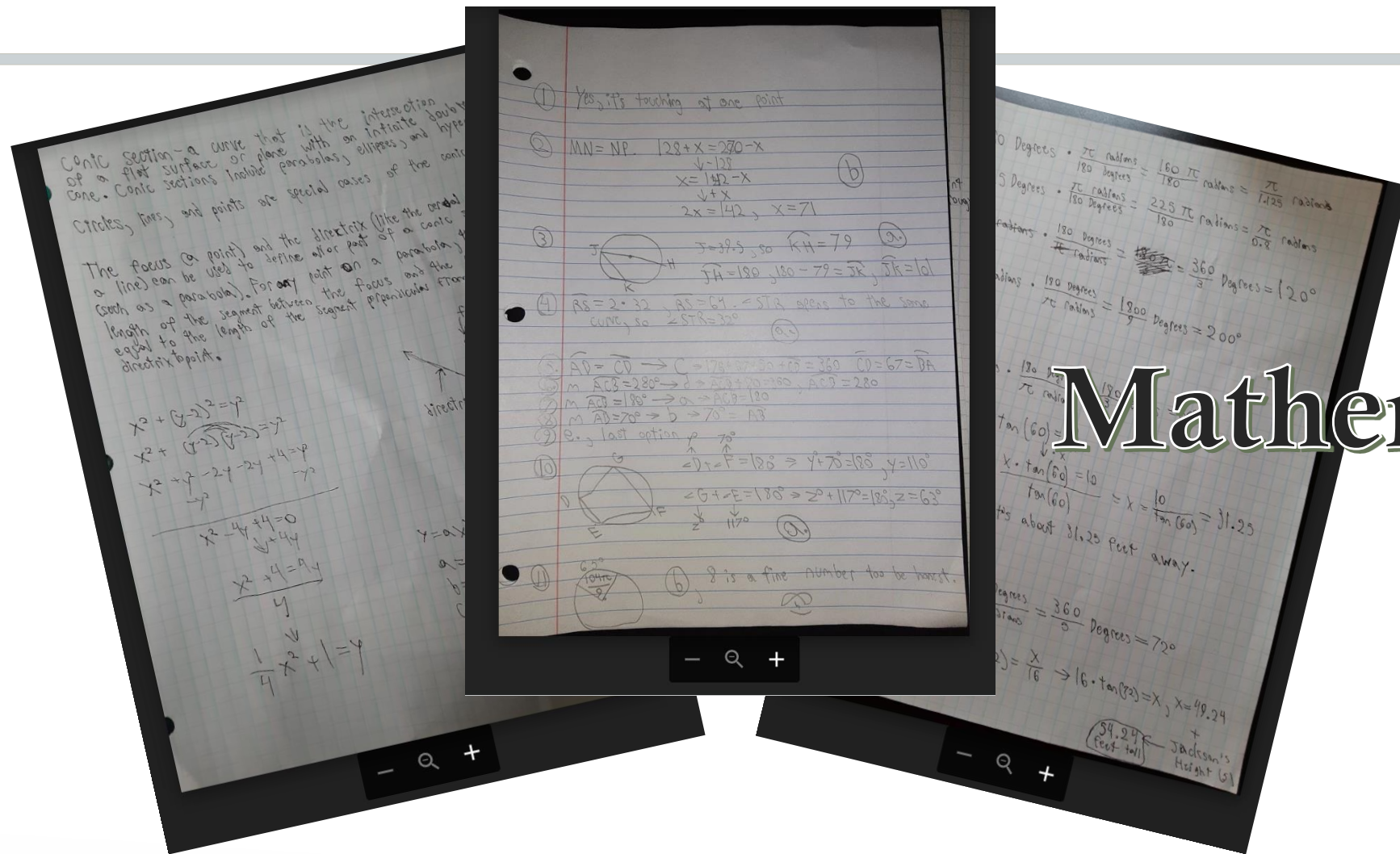
# ELA

# Example of Student Work Samples



## Graphic Arts

# Example of Work Samples



Mathematics

# Instructional Supports

- It is important to note that common planning team meetings (CPT) aligned to the instructional plan continue on a daily basis. These common planning meetings are evident across content areas including special activity, departmental, school -- including but not limited to Special Education and ELL.
- Administrators discuss the use of data from formative assessments to make decisions to inform on future lessons.
- As Superintendent, I continue to visit the virtual CPT Meetings daily and lend instructional supports to the staff.

# Orange Public Schools Social Media

## Social Media

### Hashtags:

#GoodtoGreat

#FROrange

#OrangeStrong

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