



OBOE-Mail Blast



November 14, 2014

Volume 4, Number 9

Homecoming 2014

In This Issue:

OHS Homecoming Court

Senior Day

OHS Cheerleaders Win at "Cheer for the Cure"

"And the Band Plays On"

Forest Celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month with a Fiesta

Forest Students Shout "Stay Low, Get Out and Stay Out"

Mole Day Celebrated at OHS

OHS and OPA Present "Sherlock Holmes"

Good Luck to Master Science Teacher

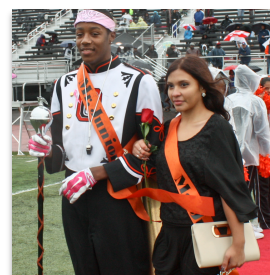
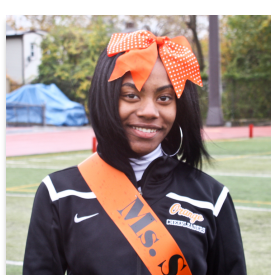
Orange High School's Annual Homecoming Court



Homecoming King and Queen

It was a celebratory event at the annual Orange High School Homecoming Game on November 1 at Bell Stadium. Although the Tornados lost to the Verona High School Hillbillies, by one point, the atmosphere was upbeat for the introduction of the Homecoming Court, on a wet fall afternoon.

The 2014 Homecoming King and Queen are seniors, Tyler Bryan and Toyasia Kates. Their court, made up of fellow classmates representing the freshman, sophomore, junior and senior classes, along with Mr. and Ms. OHS, and Mr. and Ms. International were introduced. The court is pictured below:



Pictured (left to right) - Top row: Mr. and Ms. Freshman, Ms. Sophomore, Mr. and Ms. Junior. Bottom row: Mr. and Ms. Senior, Ms. International and Mr. and Ms. OHS.

Contact Information:
Orange Board of Education
451 Lincoln Avenue
Orange, NJ 07050

[Send Us An Email](#)



Pictured (left to right) Mr. & Ms. OHS, Mr. and Ms. Freshman, Ms. International, Homecoming King and Queen, Mr. & Ms. Junior, Ms. Sophomore and Mr. & Ms. Senior.

Homecoming King	Homecoming Queen
Tyler Bryan	Toyasia Kates
Mr. OHS	Ms. OHS
Junior Muyideen Saba	Barakat Olusekun
Mr. Senior	Ms. Senior
Keyshawn Alexander	Natacia Russell
Mr. International	Ms. International
Lawrence Emedon- Namdi	Phyllis Impraim
Mr. Junior	Ms. Junior
Dorian Boyd	Ela Urbina
Mr. Sophomore	Ms. Sophomore
Zahier Childs	Nigeria May-Ricks
Mr. Freshman	Ms. Freshman
Christian Wells	Ann-Marie Thomas



Pictured above and below, scenes from the Homecoming Game.



Senior Day Honors 2015 Graduates

Students

Dominique Jacobs Akirah Townes Quabisa Neblett Sashay Freeman Titianna Morris Loryne Roberson Brittany Jean-Baptiste Natalie Russell Toyasia Kates Rodney Lucas Yasmine Louis Sabrina Victor Avondaya Wardlaw Marlin Boswell	Ahijah Brooms Giovanni Duroseau Rashawn Miles Jibri Artis Jensy Marcelin Tyler Bryan Willington Previlon George Cupidon Scott Thelusma Dante Brunson Melvin Bailey Chris Waite Shamarie Kerr	The Homecoming Game also honored Orange HS Cheerleaders and Football team seniors on the occasion of their final home game. They were honored along with their parents guardians and coaches. All were congratulated for their hard work and team spirit. Additionally, Veterans were asked to stand and be recognized for their service to this Country.
---	--	---

Orange High School Cheerleaders Win at *Cheer for the Cure*



(SEC web post).

The Orange High School (OHS) Cheerleaders were 2nd Place Winners of Division 1, at the *Cheer for the Cure*, the Super Essex Conference (SEC) 7th Annual Cheerleading Halftime Competition. *Cheer for the Cure* was held on October 28 at Bloomfield High School. "The SEC has raised over \$30,000 since its inception that has been donated to cancer research and the New Jersey Community Foodbank."

The OHS Cheerleaders, under the direction of their coach, Ms. Tosha M. Brown, OHS Dance Director, participated in the following:

Division I: (SEC web post).

- Tumbling: All rolls, cartwheels, round-offs, walkovers (no flipping skills, including handsprings)
- Routines: Up to and including extended 2 legged stunts, basket tosses (no twisting), straight cradle dismounts (no twists)

The Orange Public School District congratulates the students and their coach for this outstanding achievement.

“ . . . And the Band Plays On . . . ”



The Orange High School-Mighty Marching Tornadoes were winners at the annual Lincoln University Homecoming Parade Competition on October 18. After marching in their homecoming parade, the band competed at the end of the parade route, and won First Place for best parade performance. The Mighty Marching Tornadoes won the honor of performing a field show at the end of the homecoming game. The band is directed by Mr. Steven Reeves, along with a supporting staff of educators.

Orange Preparatory Academy And Orange High School Ends October With A Celebration For National Hispanic Month



There was “mucho” excitement during the Orange Preparatory Academy (OPA) and Orange High School (OHS) Hispanic Heritage Celebration 2014, on October 30. The program opened with a parade of flags and Mariachi Nuevo Mexico, a lively band. The occasion was festive and the audience enjoyed watching peers, teachers, administrators and special guests perform. Students and staff were entertained with an exploration of Hispanic culture through music, song and dance.

The program was filled with several dance performances demonstrating Peruvian folklore, salsa and a contemporary dance by three students to “Que Viva la Vida.” The OPA Choir, directed by music teacher, Mr. Peter Abazia, sang “Vivir Mi Vida.” Also singing in a Karaoke performance were teachers Ms. Jennifer Brown and Ms. Olivia Silva and choir students.

The event was further highlighted with additional dance numbers performed by the Orange Dance Conservatory and Concepts in Choreography, directed by Ms. Debbie Rembert, Park Avenue dance instructor and OPA dance class students, directed by dance instructor, Ms. Adrienne Nass. ESL students, coordinated by their teacher Ms. Laura Bautista-Lasky, also performed. Moreover, there was a video presentation “Greetings in Spanish” produced and directed by Mr. Justin Niemchzyh, STEM Lab instructor. The film featured staff members demonstrating their Spanish language skills and cultural importance.





Pictured above, scenes from the OPA and OHS Hispanic Celebration.



The event was directed by Assistant Principal, Mr. Noel Cruz and produced by World Language teacher, Mr. Freddy Camarena. There were several teachers who performed in the program, showing their talents, and many others who assisted in the overall production. All are to be congratulated for a wonderful show that celebrated a vibrant culture.

Forest Celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month with a Fiesta!

Submitted by Bill Donnelly, ESL teacher. Photos courtesy of Lucia Dolin

Forest students and their families came together on October 23 to recognize and celebrate all of the countries and cultures that make up Forest Street School. With a special emphasis on Hispanic Cultures, the evening began with younger students, directed by music teacher, Mr. Brian Silvoy, singing in both Spanish and English. But there was more to come. Over 50 Forest families, representing more than a dozen different countries, prepared home-cooked dishes for everyone to share, and to showcase their cultures and ethnic backgrounds. Other parents contributed beverages, desserts and supplies, and many volunteered to set up and staff the buffet.





Pictured above, Scenes from Forest Street's Hispanic Celebration.

Almost 200 guests got a chance to taste foods from all around the world—not only from Guatemala, El Salvador, México, Costa Rica, Uruguay, Puerto Rico, Perú and the Dominican Republic, but also from Haiti, Jamaica, the United States and many African nations.

Once the buffet was underway, the entertainment continued with a beautifully choreographed dance presentation by upper-grade students, directed by dance teacher, Ms. Jacqueline Selesky. The whole room stopped dining to watch this terrific show! Afterward, students were so inspired by the dancers that a large group of all ages came to the center of the room and joined a group dance that Ms. Selesky organized on the spot to address all the energy and desire to dance.

It was a thrilling and satisfying night for all, according to the many parents and students who commented, but most of all it was a tribute to our Forest student entertainers, our generous parents who cooked the wonderful food and our terrific staff who worked so hard to make the evening a festive tribute to Hispanic Heritage Month. ¡¡¡¡Muchísimas Gracias to all who took part!!!

Forest Students Shout: “Stay Low, Get Out and Stay Out!”

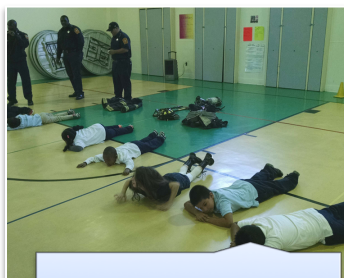
Submitted by Bill Donnelly, ESL teacher

The Orange Fire Department brought this life-saving message to Forest Street School on Thursday, October 30th in a live demonstration to students in Pre-K to Grade 3. The presentation was all about, “What to do, if there’s a fire at your home?” and was the highlight of Forest’s *Fire Safety Month* program.

Orange Fire Captain Spearman got the program rolling by asking student volunteers to show everyone what to do if your own clothes catch fire. As the students jumped to action at the front of Forest’s multi-purpose room, the entire group called out to them to, “Stop, Drop and Roll!” This is the fastest and safest way to put out a fire that’s on you. To show how to escape from a house fire at night, another group of Forest students pretended to be sleeping, then demonstrated how to stay low and crawl quickly to the nearest exit.

Next, three other visiting firefighters talked about how to prepare in advance for a fire in your home: “Stay low, know two exits, practice a drill and agree on a meeting place outside your home”, instructed Capt. Brooks. “Make sure your smoke detectors have new batteries and are up where they belong,” added Firefighter Cleveland.

“Most important of all”, explained Firefighter Aspiazu, “if there is a fire in your home, FORGET ABOUT saving toys, iPods and other valuables. Your life is always more important!” Just get out of there quickly! And once you’re outside, never go back in to get your stuff. Forest Street students clearly showed the four firefighters that they understood how serious a fire is by joining them in a loud chorus: “When there’s a fire, STAY LOW, GET OUT and STAY OUT!”



Sleeping



Stop, drop and roll



Crawling

Mole Day Celebrated at OHS

(Submitted by Lillian Lugo, Master Science Teacher/Content Coach for grades 8-12)

Happy Mole O'ween! Science teachers and students celebrated Mole Day at OHS this year with tons of fun demonstrations.

What Is Mole Day?

Celebrated annually on October 23 from 6:02 a.m. to 6:02 p.m., Mole Day commemorates Avogadro's Number (6.02×10^{23}), which is a basic measuring unit in chemistry. Mole Day was created as a way to foster interest in chemistry. Schools throughout the United States and around the world celebrate Mole Day with various activities related to chemistry and/or moles.

(Click here to visit the National Mole Day Foundation Inc. website)



Pictured from left to right, Dr. Latha Nair (lead coordinator for Mole Day), Ashley Kisson (OHS junior poster designer and lead event assistant), and Lillian Lugo (Science coach) show off their T-shirts and one of Ashley's posters.



Dr. Moshofsky (Woodrow Wilson Fellow and student teacher) helps lead OHS students in creating a foaming "Mole-a-Lantern".

Orange High School and Orange Preparatory Academy Present *Sherlock Holmes*

(Press Release by Rosa Lazzizzera, OPA Library Media Specialist and Production Manager)

“The game is afoot!” The Visual and Performing Arts Department of Orange High School, in association with Orange Preparatory Academy invites you to don your trench coat, shine your magnifying glass, and follow the clues straight towards this year’s production of *Sherlock Holmes*! This classic story pits London’s most skillful sleuth, Sherlock Holmes, against the maniacal machinations of his arch nemesis, Professor Moriarty. Along with his faithful associate, Dr. John Watson, the pair snoops around London’s underbelly, attempting to prevent a dastardly plot that would wreak havoc across Europe. Will they eliminate the impossible? Will they deduce the improbable? Will they discover the truth? Come and unravel the mystery for yourself! After all, “It’s elementary...”

Performances are December 4th, 5th, & 6th: Thursday and Friday at 7:00 pm and two Saturday shows with a 2:00 pm matinee and 7:00 pm final performance.

Ms. Dana Levin, director, is excited about the opportunity to direct Tim Kelly’s adaptation of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle’s classic, *Sherlock Holmes*. Most recently, Ms. Levin directed the OHS/OPA production of *Grease*. She has also previously directed *The Great Gatsby* and the musical, *Little Shop of Horrors*, and serves as the advisor of the OHS chapter of the International Thespian Society, as well as directing the OHS Drama Showcase. Ms. Levin states, “I’ve really enjoyed working with this talented cast and crew. Everyone has worked so hard and it will definitely be evident in the final production.”

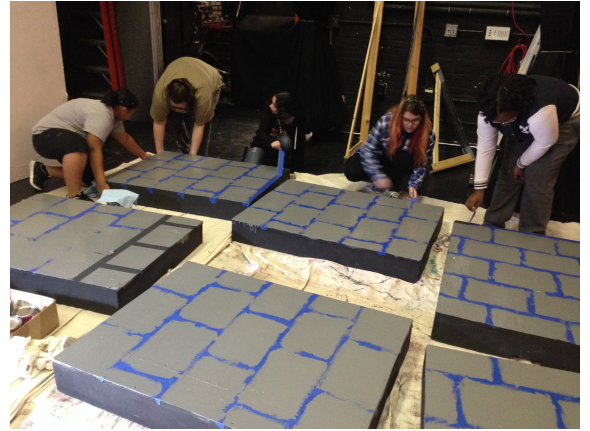
Mr. Mike Seidel, Orange School District’s Elementary Drama teacher, joins the OPA/OHS Theater team for the first time as Assistant Director. Mr. Seidel has worked in five different schools in the Orange District where he has had the pleasure to work with hundreds of talented K-7 students. He has directed and produced musicals such as *Willy Wonka Jr.*, *Treasure Island* and his original play, *Elfgood*.

“Ms. Levin and Mr. Seidel have very high expectations of us that we try to meet,” said senior Furqan Bilal. He plays the part of Sherlock Holmes and is no stranger to the stage, having performed in recent productions of *Grease*, *The Great Gatsby* as Nick Caraway and *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare Abridged/Revised* as Marc Antony. “This cast has become a family very quickly and hopefully that will be transparent on stage.”

Mr. Peter Crosta, Supervisor of Visual & Performing Arts for the Orange Public School District indicated that the live performances in Orange are meeting the community with open arms. “We are seeing more and more of the community coming out to support our students. Why not? They are talented and pour their hearts and souls into their work. If you haven’t yet joined us for a live performance, you might be pleasantly surprised!!” Mr. Crosta also indicated that we are striving to help meet one of the district’s goals of parent outreach. “The Arts are a vehicle to help our schools connect with parents in a non-academic way.”

Sherlock Holmes will be presented at Orange Preparatory Academy Auditorium, located at the intersection of Lincoln and Central Avenues, in Orange. The theatre is wheelchair-accessible with assisted hearing units available for the hearing impaired. General seating tickets may be purchased in advance for \$5.00. They may also be purchased at the door for \$7.00. Tickets are also available for senior citizens and students (with a valid student identification card) for \$5.00 at all times. Please call (973) 677-4000 ext. 5665 or email lazzizro@orange.k12.nj.us with any questions.

Sherlock Holmes Crew Gets Ready for the Show



The Sherlock Holmes crew is busy reading the set for the upcoming play. The stage crew members are pictured above and pictured right are students building and creating scenery, under the guidance of Ms. Tammy Baldwin, Set Construction and Ms. Stephanie Natiello, Set Designer. Also pictured above with students is Production Manager, Ms. Rosa Lazzizzera.



Good Luck Wishes for Master Science Teacher

Lillian Lugo, Master Science Teacher/Content Coach for grades 8-12, has been chosen as an eligible candidate for the *Teach Earth USA Fellowship* program. Her completed application has been accepted and final notice of acceptance and expedition assignment will be sent in the spring. "This honor will enable me to not only represent Orange Public Schools, but will also allow for some amazing experiences and programs to share with the teachers and students," said Ms. Lugo.

The program expeditions for this season include: Climate Change and Caterpillars in Ecuador, Climate Change at the Arctic's Edge, Climate Change and Caterpillars in Arizona. Educators may only receive 2 fellowship opportunities in their lifetime; "I am so happy to have made it through to the (almost) final step of this process."

FYI

Family Literacy Event

The English Language Arts Department is hosting a Family Literacy Event for grades 6 - 12 students. Parents are invited to come and learn how they can help their children become better readers and writers. The session will be held on Tuesday, November 18, 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. at Orange High School. Sign in at the event, to be eligible to win a prize. See flyer below.

November 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6 NJEA Convention- District Closed	7 NJEA Convention- District Closed	8
9	10	11 Veterans Day  Monthly BOE Meeting 7:30PM at OPA	12 Marking Period 1 Ends Oakwood Lobby Art Show, 6:00PM Administrative Bldg.	13 Marking Period 2 Begins	14	15 Veterans Day Homecoming Parade
16	17 Grades PreK- 7, 12:30PM Dismissal, Parent Conference 1:15-4:00PM	18 Parent Conference PreK-7, 6:00-8:00PM	19 Grades 8-12, 12:30PM Dismissal, Parent Conference 1:15-4:15PM	20 Parent Conference Grades 8-12, 6:00 - 8:00PM	21	22
23	24	25	26 Thanksgiving Recess, 12:30PM Dismissal	27  District Closed	28 Thanksgiving Recess District Closed	29
30						

Calling all **6th-12th** Grade Families!

The Orange Public School District presents a...

Family Literacy Event



*Be sure to sign
in to be eligible
to win a prize!!!*

Friday, November 14, 2014, from 8:50 AM — 10:00 AM

Lincoln Avenue School

OR

Tuesday, November 18, 2014, from 6:00 PM — 7:00 PM

Orange High School

Refreshments & Free child care!

**Come out and learn how you can help your child
succeed this school year!**

Orange Preparatory Academy and Orange High School
PERFORMING ARTS DEPARTMENTS
proudly present

SUSPENSE

Advanced
GENERAL SEATING

\$5.00

GENERAL SEATING
(at the door)

\$7.00

Students (with Valid ID)
and
Senior Citizen

\$5.00

EXCITEMENT



**INTRIGUE
MYSTERY**

Written by
Tim Kelly

Directed by
Dana Levin

WHO-DUN-IT??

December 4 and 5, 2014 at 7:00 pm
December 6, 2014 at 2:00 and 7:00 pm

Call 973-677-4000 x5665
for more information

Freely adapted from the classic comedy by
Sir Arthur Conan Doyle & William Gillette
Pioneer Drama Service



OBOE-Mail Blast



November 21, 2014

Volume 4, Number 10



In This Issue:

Orange Placed on AP Honor Roll

Sherlock Holmes

OHS Earns Silver Award

Inaugural El Sistema NJ Week

November Board Meeting

Oakwood Avenue Community

School:

- **Art Display**
- **Wellness**
- **Hispanic Heritage Program**

Lincoln Safety Patrol Induction

OECCH Nutrition and Numbers

Caldwell University Visits Forest

Scholars Students at Tech Day

FYI

Contact Information:
Orange Board of Education
451 Lincoln Avenue
Orange, NJ 07050

[Send Us An Email](#)

Awards and Recognition for Orange Schools



Orange Township Public School District Placed on the College Board's 5th Annual AP[®] District Honor Roll for Significant Gains in Student Access and Success

A Record 547 School Districts Across the Nation Are Honored

Orange Township Public School District is one of 547 school districts in the U.S. and Canada being honored by the College Board with placement on the 5th Annual AP[®] District Honor Roll for increasing access to AP course work while simultaneously maintaining or increasing the percentage of students earning scores of 3 or higher on AP Exams. 2014 is a milestone year for the AP District Honor Roll, and more districts are achieving this objective than ever before. Reaching these goals indicates that the district is successfully identifying motivated, academically prepared students who are ready for the opportunity of AP. Since 2012, the Orange Township Public School District has increased the number of students participating in AP while improving the number of students earning AP Exam scores of 3 or higher.

“This honor confirms our commitment to improving academics and the rigor of our curriculum for college and career readiness,” said Superintendent of Schools, Mr. Ronald C. Lee. “With more challenging course work, our students are becoming more aware that advanced level courses provide preparation for college, develop academic skills and give them college credits before entering school.”

Data from 2014 show that among African American, Hispanic, and Native American students with a high degree of readiness for AP, only about half of students are participating. The first step to delivering the opportunity of AP to students is providing access by ensuring courses are available, that gatekeeping stops, and that the doors are equitably opened so these students can participate. Orange Township Public School District is committed to expanding the availability of AP courses among prepared and motivated students of all backgrounds.

“The devoted teachers and administrators in this district are delivering an undeniable benefit to their students: opportunity. When coupled with a student’s hard work, such opportunities

can have myriad outcomes, whether building confidence, learning to craft effective arguments, earning credit for college, or persisting to graduate from college on time.” said Trevor Packer, the College Board’s senior vice president of AP and Instruction. “We applaud your conviction that a more diverse population of students is ready for the sort of rigor that will prepare them for success in college.”

Helping more students learn at a higher level *and* earn higher AP scores is an objective of all members of the AP community, from AP teachers to district and school administrators to college professors. Many districts are experimenting with a variety of initiatives and strategies to determine how to simultaneously expand access and improve student performance. “We hope to move to open access of AP courses so that all students, not just the high-achieving students, will have access to the AP opportunities which will benefit all students who are enrolled,” said Dr. Kalisha Morgan, Co-Principal of Orange High School.

In 2014, more than 3,800 colleges and universities around the world received AP scores for college credit, advanced placement, and/or consideration in the admission process, with many colleges and universities in the United States offering credit in one or more subjects for qualifying AP scores.

Inclusion on the 5th Annual AP District Honor Roll is based on the examination of three years of AP data, from 2012 to 2014, looking across 34 AP Exams, including world language and culture. The following criteria were used.

Districts must:

- Increase participation/access to AP by at least 4 percent in large districts, at least 6 percent in medium districts, and at least 11 percent in small districts;
- Increase or maintain the percentage of exams taken by African American, Hispanic/Latino, and American Indian/Alaska Native students; and
- Improve performance levels when comparing the percentage of students in 2014 scoring a 3 or higher to those in 2012, *unless* the district has already attained a performance level at which more than 70 percent of its AP students are scoring a 3 or higher.

When these outcomes have been achieved among an AP student population in which 30 percent or more are underrepresented minority students (Black/African American, Hispanic/Latino, American Indian/Alaska Native) and/or 30 percent or more are low-income students (students who qualify for free or reduced-price lunch), a symbol has been affixed to the district name to highlight this work.

The complete 5th Annual AP District Honor Roll can be found [here](#).

See Sherlock Holmes on Stage at Orange Preparatory Academy



Sherlock Holmes will be presented on December 4 and 5 at 7:00 p.m. and December 6 at 2:00 and 7:00 p.m. at Orange Preparatory Academy Auditorium, located at 400 Central Avenue. The theatre is wheelchair-accessible with assisted hearing units available for the hearing impaired. Tickets may be purchased in advance for \$5.00 or at the door for \$7.00. Tickets for senior citizens and students (with a valid student ID card) are \$5.00 at all times. For more information, call (973) 677-4000 ext. 5665 or email lazzizro@orange.k12.nj.us.

Orange High School Earns Silver Award From National Wildlife Federation's Eco-Schools USA

11 Essex County Schools Now Participating in Eco-Schools USA



Orange is the new Green, at least at Orange High School it is. Students and staff are going green with a sustainable food initiative that infiltrates everything from staff seminars to core curriculum. Their efforts have earned them the Silver Award with National Wildlife Federation's (NWF) Eco-Schools USA Program. This international program helps schools integrate sustainability into the curriculum and onto school grounds, empowering students to change the way they impact the environment.

Orange High School joined the program earlier this year and has been making use of the free resources and training offered through Eco-Schools USA to expand their sustainable food initiative.

Under the leadership of superintendent Ronald Lee and teacher Jonathon Rosenthal, Orange High School launched the Hydroponics Green House Project, a student run business in collaboration with the Culinary Arts Club, the FBLA club and the business and science department. In addition to learning how to grow organic produce in a confined space, students are learning about nutrition, business and marketing.

"Growing food in a hydroponic greenhouse and establishing a business to market the produce is a wonderful opportunity for our students to be exposed to a potential career. We are also very proud of all the participants for the work they have done in fostering this eco-friendly project," says Superintendent Lee. You can see the students at work in this [video](#).

"Sustainable food is being integrated into multiple curriculum areas as staff teach common subjects through the lens of sustainability, using sustainable food as examples for skill application. They are an excellent exemplar of how Eco-Schools can work," says Jennifer Dowd, Eco-Schools coordinator, New Jersey Audubon. Jennifer is helping to guide this effort through a free series of intensive professional development seminars for district teachers throughout the year. New Jersey Audubon is an NWF affiliate and the state coordinator for the Eco-Schools program.

To win the NWF Eco-School USA Silver Award schools must establish an Eco-Action Team, conduct an environmental audit, develop and monitor an Eco-Action plan and include the community as they focus on two of ten possible environmental pathways such as energy efficiency, biodiversity or sustainable foods.

There are 133 Eco-Schools in New Jersey with 11 in Essex County including East Side High School, Edgemont Montessori, Greater Newark Charter School, H.B. Whitehorne Middle School, Maria L. Varisco Rogers Charter School, Millburn Middle School, Miller Street Elementary School, Montclair Kimberly Academy, Orange High School, Philips Academy Charter School, and Watchung School.

Eco-Schools is an international program in 60 countries. The program is hosted by the National Wildlife Federation in the United States, and coordinated by New Jersey Audubon in New Jersey. Eco-Schools USA in New Jersey supports and directly aligns with Sustainable Jersey for Schools point-based system. With support from PSE&G, the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation, the Horizon Foundation, and Spencer Savings Bank Eco-Schools USA is able to provide a staff person on the ground to help New Jersey schools reach their goals.

Inaugural El Sistema New Jersey Week unites student musicians from five programs statewide

Student performances in their communities celebrate the power of music

El Sistema New Jersey Week: Nov 17–24, 2014



The five music-instruction programs of the El Sistema New Jersey Alliance present the inaugural El Sistema New Jersey Week—a festival of free community concerts—November 17–24. Each program in the alliance will produce concerts in its own community.

The El Sistema New Jersey Alliance formed in 2014 through the collective efforts of five New Jersey programs inspired by the vision of Venezuela’s El Sistema, with a mission to create, support and advocate for a strong network of statewide El Sistema-inspired programs that endeavor to use music as a vehicle for social change and to widen life opportunities for New Jersey’s neediest children.

The alliance of NJSO CHAMPS (Character, Achievement and Music Project), the Paterson Music Project, Sister Cities GirlChoir (Camden), Sonic Explorations: Sharing Sounds of Oakwood (Orange) and Union City Music Project is the first of its kind in the US and is a significant marker for music education in New Jersey, says El Sistema expert Tricia Tunstall, author of *Changing Lives: Gustavo Dudamel, El Sistema and the Transformative Power of Music*.

“The El Sistema model from Venezuela uses musical learning and ensembles in the service of social engagement, social change and change in children and families’ lives,” Tunstall says. “What is distinctive about it is that it’s not about a program about creating musicians; it’s a program about creating happy, whole people. Across the world, El Sistema is being seen as a new and promising way to think about social change. The five El Sistema programs that have started in New Jersey in just the last two years is really a testimony to how inspiring this idea is.”

El Sistema New Jersey Week kicks off a season-long cross-program collaboration of the young musicians from these five sister programs. The year will culminate in the second annual Fiddle-and-Fa-La-La Fest, a joint pre-concert performance for NJSO Family Concert patrons on Saturday, June 6, at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC) in Newark. [Learn more about the first Fiddle-and-Fa-La-La-Fest collaboration and watch student performances from the event.](#)

“By [working] together like this,” says Tunstall, “the students can see that not only are they working in ensembles themselves, honing their skills and finding they are capable of playing beautiful music, but that they are also part of something bigger than just their school—that there are kids everywhere who are learning like this and playing together in this way. It gives them a new identity for themselves, and there is something very powerful about that.”

November Board of Education Meeting



The Oakwood Avenue Community School hosted the November Monthly Board of Education Meeting. Principal Robert Pettit presented his video of his ALS Challenge completion and again challenged Oakwood's sister school, Lincoln Avenue School to complete the challenge. His students pretended to replicate the challenge on stage to a somewhat surprised audience, before playfully pouring pieces of paper on their heads. They then sang the "Bucket Filler Song"

learned during October's *Week of Respect*, the words of which teaches students to be a "bucket filler" not a "bucket dipper." Music teacher, Mrs. Annmarie Guenther, directed them **(pictured above)**. Mr. Pettit thanked his students, staff and parents for their attendance.

Also presenting to the Board was Mr. Roger Hinton, President and CEO of the Family Assistance Resource Center, NJ (FARCNJ) **(pictured right)**, along with the head of his fundraising committee, Mr. Ernest Williams. Mr. Hinton gave a PowerPoint presentation outlining the mission of FARCNJ, their accomplishments and community involvement. FARCNJ's mission is *"To provide emergency, economic and material resources, as well as, educational, vocational and career assistance to individuals and families (especially those in crisis) to strengthen and empower them to live sustainable independent lives."*



FARCNJ has assisted Orange families devastated by fire, facilitated educational enrichment to the district's students and serves as a ready resource for families in need. Mr. Hinton works closely with the district and appreciated the opportunity to share information about his organization. He welcomes volunteers and donations to support their cause. FARCNJ is a 501c3, non-profit organization.

Mr. Tyrone Dorsey, Food Service Manager also shared information about the district's Food Bank Pantry Program. This new program supplements the existing Backpack Program that remains at Rosa Parks Central Community School and Cleveland Street School. It will assist families who are referred through their schools and meet certain guidelines. Food will be provided through the Community Food Bank of New Jersey in Hillside and the Department of Agriculture. The program is in its early stages of implementation. (A full review of this effort will be provided in later issues of the weekly OBOE-Mail Blast)

Student of the Month

Deputy Superintendent Dr. Paula Howard and Board of Education President, Mrs. Patricia A. Arthur, presented students with certificates for being selected Student of the Month (SOTM). On a monthly basis, students are recognized for exemplary behavior, academics and citizenship by their school.

Student	School
Salomon Philippe	Orange High School
Romeo Rowe	Orange Preparatory Academy
Millicent Anokye - Boateng	Career and Innovation Academy of Orange
Ashley Lavieriano	Cleveland Street School
Jayden Baines	Rosa Parks Community School
Aitalia Sharpe	Park Avenue School
Makaela Lewis	Heywood Avenue School
Anthony Ozoria	Forest Street School
Gabrielle Jean-Joseph	Oakwood Avenue Community School
Keith Hemans	Lincoln Avenue School



Park Avenue SOTM with her parent, Principal Dr. Myron Hackett, Board President Arthur and Deputy Superintendent, Dr. Howard



Cleveland Street SOTM with His parent, Principal Yancisca Cooke, Board President Arthur and Deputy Superintendent, Dr. Howard



Cleveland Street SOTM with her family, Principal Dr. Cayce Cummins, Board President Arthur and Deputy Superintendent, Dr. Howard



Heywood Avenue SOTM with her family, Principal Faith Alcantara, Board President Arthur and Deputy Superintendent, Dr. Howard



RPCS SOTM with his family, Principal Debra Joseph-Charles, Board President Arthur and Deputy Superintendent, Dr. Howard



OPA SOTM with his parent, Principal Aretha Malloy, Board President Arthur and Deputy Superintendent, Dr. Howard

Parent of the Month



Ms. Mateo with her daughter, Principal Pettit, Board Member, Ms. Cristina Mateo, her sister, Board President Arthur and Deputy Superintendent Dr. Howard.

members of her family show an interest in the activities that are held at Oakwood Avenue Community School and make a contribution to each and every cause.

Oakwood Avenue Community School's Parent of the Month is Ms. Minerva Mateo. Ms. Mateo is a parent who is committed to helping her children to stay focused and set a high standard of excellence for themselves. Whenever she has a concern, Ms. Mateo will reach out and seek advice before taking action. She is an active member of our PTO and translates the meeting into Spanish. Ms. Mateo has good work ethic and attends school in the evening in order to further advance her career, which are two traits that are certainly seen in both of her children, Nayelis and Chrystopher. Ms. Mateo and

Oakwood Art Display at the Board of Education Building

The Oakwood Avenue Community School hosted a festive art opening on November 12. They served refreshments and played lively music for visiting students and their families. Principal Robert Pettit welcomed all to the occasion and Supervisor of Visual and Performing Arts, Mr. Peter Crosta asked all to applaud for the artists who, unlike the performing arts, seldom receive the accolades for their hard work. Mrs. Belinda Scott Smiley, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent and Director of Human Resources, welcomed visitors to the Board, on behalf of the Superintendent of Schools, mentioning how wonderful it is to come to the office daily with such expressive art work adorning the walls.

Art teacher, Ms. Helen Kwon, presented proud and happy students with certificates for the artwork they completed. The exhibit includes collages, ceramics, and paintings and will be on display through the end of November.





Students with their certificates, Principal Pettit and Ms. Kwon.



Pictured above, scenes from the art show.



Mr. Pettit, Mr. Crosta and Mrs. Smiley greet student who received his certificate from Ms. Kwon.



Pictured above, scene from the art show.

Oakwood Avenue Community School Promotes Wellness

Judith Powell, School Nurse, Oakwood Avenue School

Oakwood Avenue Community School is making strides at incorporating and implementing the goals set by the school district's wellness policy, along with the goals set by the *Alliance for a Healthier Generation* to build healthier environments for children. The *Alliance for a Healthier Generation* works with schools and families to improve physical education, health education, child nutrition, and staff wellness policies. Oakwood is aiming to receive recognition through the *Alliance for a Healthier Generation* and has brought about awareness of nutrition and exercise and implemented programs that will better the health and wellness of our entire school community. In addition to implementing the USDA's *Smart Snacks in School Program*, additional events were planned to achieve these goals:

- **Jamming Minute** - A one-minute exercise during morning announcements.
- **September 8, 2014** - Formation of School Wellness Council. The Wellness council is comprised of staff, parents and other community members. They meet once every 6-8 weeks for about a half hour where they discuss what can be done to improve the health and wellness of the school community. Next meeting: November 18.
- **October 8, 2014** - Oakwood Avenue Community School participated in National Walk to School day and students were given a hand out on Safe Walking.
- **October 13, 2014** - Optical Academy came to give eye exams.
- **October 15, 2014** - The Biggest Loser Challenge began for interested staff members.

- **October 21, 2014** - The "Think First" Program provided by Kessler Institute for Rehabilitation presented spinal cord and brain injury prevention to the students.
- **October 30, 2014** -Submitted a grant for a school garden by Whole Kids Foundation.
- **November 17 and 18, 2014** - Nutritionist Sally Hammer, from Shoprite, visited during parent teacher conferences to consult with parents about nutrition.



Pictured (left) students enjoy healthy snacks, and (right) Ms. Hammer consults with parents.

Upcoming events and activities:

- **December 15, 2014** - Mobil Dental will be coming and will return in 6-months (June 17, 2015)
- **January 9, 2015** - Rutgers Snap Program will be coming to provide nutritional education for Kindergarten and 4th grade.

Oakwood Avenue Community School Hispanic Heritage Program

Submitted by Ana Rodriguez, World Language teacher, Oakwood Avenue Community School



Oakwood Avenue Community School celebrated Hispanic Heritage on October 29. Students, teachers, administrator and parents joined in the celebration of recognizing famous Hispanic Americans by participating in singing, dancing and food sampling. Students in grades 4 through 7 introduced all the Spanish-speaking countries of the world, portraying their flag and showing a quick PowerPoint presentation for each country. They then presented facts about Hispanics living in the United States and some of the important roles they play in our country.

Nine famous Hispanic Americans were introduced during the program, including Sonia Sotomayor, Ernesto Galarza, and Celia Cruz, among others. Students also presented a poem by Rosalia De Castro, expressing the loneliness and fear of leaving one's land to move to an unknown country. Throughout the entire program, Mr. Rizzolo and two of his students (**pictured**) played Latin beats to accompany the presentations. The celebration then turned to dancing, where groups of students performed a salsa and a bachata, energizing the auditorium with the rhythms of Latin American music. The audience was then given lessons

on bachata dancing as well as the macarena, having most of the audience up and dancing. Teachers and parents were then asked to go on stage for a dance competition, ending the program with lots of energy. All present were then invited to join in a food tasting of different dishes prepared by parents and staff representing some of the delicious cuisine of Latin America. It was a celebration filled with energy and music that taught and entertained guests.



Pictured above, scenes for Oakwood Avenue Community School's *Hispanic Heritage Program*.

Safety Patrol Induction at Lincoln Avenue School

Submitted by Faye Coward, Kindergarten teacher, Lincoln Avenue School

On November 17, Lincoln Avenue School students gathered to observe the induction of the new Safety Patrol. To be considered for this position, students were required to complete an application and demonstrate good citizenship. Assistant Principal Colon reviewed all applications and interviewed the students prior to making a determination.

The students chosen were required to attend a two-day training which culminated with an induction ceremony. Lieutenant Soto from the Orange Police Department was invited as the guest speaker and provided words of encouragement, as well as information about safety and responsibility. Students were presented with their badge and belts and were led by Lt. Soto in reciting the Safety Patrol Pledge. The entire Lincoln Avenue School extends congratulations to the Safety Patrol Team!



Pictured with the Safety Patrol Members are Principal Denise White, Lieutenant Soto and Assistant Principal Isabel Colon.

The Safety Patrol Members are:
 Christopher Gordon, 7th Grade
 Omar Ramirez Jr., 7th Grade
 Malik Jamal Anderson, 7th Grade
 Afriye Safo Tay, 7th Grade
 Florencia Mesa Fernandez, 6th Grade
 Kyanna Amanda Dwyer, 6th Grade
 Shymari L. Smith, 6th Grade
 Minoucha Previlon, 6th Grade
 Shervany Philizaire, 6th Grade
 Stherlie Previlon, 6th Grade
 Tiffany Francis, 6th Grade
 Vanessa N. Essien, 6th Grade

Orange Early Childhood Center II (OECCII) Sponsors Nutrition and Numbers Parent Workshop

On November 13 and 14, a Nutrition and Numbers Parent Workshop was held at OECCII at Scholars Academy. Parents enjoyed learning about healthy eating using the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) *My Plate* recommendations as presented by Ms. Sally Hammer, dietitian from Shop-rite of East Orange (***pictured right***).



The parents did a “hands-on” activity demonstrating the amounts of sugar in soda and juices vs. water and were given examples and recipes of healthy snacks that they could prepare with their child, while focusing on pre-school math skills. Parents left with an understanding of how they could use the everyday task of cooking to teach their child valuable math concepts. More nutritional information with parents was presented with Nurse Bernadette Guerriero (***pictured left***) and Master Teacher Amy Burns.

Caldwell University Visits Forest Street to Talk College

Submitted by Bill Donnelly, ESL Teacher, Forest Street School



Mrs. Espinosa addresses Ms. Sahid’s 4th grade class.

College Week returned to Forest Street School this month, running from November 10 to the 14. This annual event opened the door to Caldwell University and an assortment of local universities to present their schools to Forest students from grades 3 to 7. The outreach program, organized by Forest’s Guidance Counselor, Ms. Daneen Collins-Grayson, gave young students a chance to hear about college life, areas of study (some of them a surprise to elementary students!) and the exciting careers that can follow.

The presenter from Caldwell University, Ms. Iris Espinosa, Assistant Director of the Educational Opportunity Fund (EOF) and a resident of West New York, described the wide variety of programs at her school: from Criminal Justice, Drama, Music, Graphic Design and

Computer Game Design to Pre-Law and Pre-Med. She explained that Caldwell is large enough to train lawyers and doctors, but small enough that the president, Dr. Nancy Blattner, knows every student by his/her first name and walks the campus daily to greet people.

The eager 4th graders from Ms. Najiba Sahid's class listened intently to the entire presentation and responded with lots of questions about college life and careers!



Farrah Nesbit (*pictured above*) asked Ms. Espinosa, "How many dorms are there?" and learned there are five, as well as some

Then Jennifer Martinez (*pictured right*) had everyone listening and laughing with her serious two-part question. First she inquired thoughtfully, "Do you have to pay to go to Caldwell College?" (A great question!) And she followed it up by asking, "Do you also have to pay to park your car?" Drawing laughter from students, teachers and the presenter. Ms. Espinosa responded that if you're a good student, the *Educational Opportunity Fund* at Caldwell may be able to help you pay for all four years of college.



Enrique Simola (*pictured above*) was anxious for an answer to his question: "After you finish college, can you really design video games?" Ms. Espinosa assured him that technical jobs like video game design are "for real", pay a lot of money and are filled by students with a strong background in math.



Scholars Academy Students Attend Tech Day Event

Submitted by Regina Nadbielny, STEM teacher, Scholars Academy

On November 14, Mrs. Regina Nadbielny, Mrs. Shannon Keogh and five selected 4th grade students, representing their Scholars Academy STEM class, participated in the Essex County's Gifted Steering Committee Tech Day event. Jeanne Exantus (Rosa Parks), Tyler Bonneau (Heywood), Adrian Pierre (Heywood), Lucian Silva (Forest), and Savir Gordon (Forest) joined other 4th grade students from various schools in Essex County.



Pictured above (left) Mrs. Nadbielny and the participating students. Pictured (right) Tyler Bonneau (Heywood) building a water tower with a Essex County teammate.

Students were put in teams of four with students from other schools and were given an opportunity to work together cooperatively on a realistic world problem. Students were provided with a specific situation (build a water tower), a specific amount of time (one hour-45 minutes) and a specific amount of materials (can of seltzer, Play-Doh®, straws, toothpicks and tape). They had to utilize a variety of skills in order to successfully solve the problem. Therefore, a multi-modality, multi-sensory approach was applied to the active learning project. Students worked well as they collaborated to solve the problem after creating team names and designing logos. Each student received a Certificate of Achievement for Essex Tech Day and a gold star seal for completing the hands-on task.

FYI

Orange Education Foundation Pre-Holiday Party



The Orange Education Foundation, a 501c3 non-profit organization supporting the public school children of Orange, is having a Pre-Holiday Party. It is a fundraiser to support scholarships and camperships. The party will be held at the VFW Hall in Roseland, located at 52 Eisenhower Parkway, on Friday, December 12, from 8:00 p.m. - 12:00 p.m.

The theme of this festive event is "Dancing Thru the Decades." Donations are \$30 per person. For more information and tickets, call 973-337-5532 or 973-652-1252.

Voices in Harmony Presents Holiday Favorites in Behind the Curtain Concert Series



On Friday, December 12, on the stage at Orange Preparatory Academy, Voices in Harmony, (VIH) Orange High School's select chorus, will entertain with a selection of favorite Holiday songs. This event is part of VIH's fundraising effort, to allow them to participate in annual competitions. There will be two one hour sessions at 5:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for each session and food is included. Seats are limited. For ticket information email Choral Director, Mr. David Milnes at milnesda@orange.k12.nj.us or visit Choir Room, # 246 at Orange High School. See flyer below.

November 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6 NJEA Convention- District Closed	7 NJEA Convention- District Closed	8
9	10	11 Veterans Day  Monthly BOE Meeting 7:30PM at OPA	12 Marking Period 1 Ends Oakwood Lobby Art Show, 6:00PM Administrative Bldg.	13 Marking Period 2 Begins	14	15
16	17 Grades PreK- 7, 12:30PM Dismissal, Parent Conference 1:15-4:00PM	18 Parent Conference PreK-7, 6:00-8:00PM	19 Grades 8-12, 12:30PM Dismissal, Parent Conference 1:15-4:15PM	20 Parent Conference Grades 8-12, 6:00 - 8:00PM	21	22
23	24	25	26 Thanksgiving Recess, 12:30PM Dismissal	27  District Closed	28 Thanksgiving Recess District Closed	29
30						

DONATIONS NEEDED

BROTHERHOOD AND NOT ORANGE

ARE COLLECTING THE FOLLOWING ITEMS FOR THE
VICTIMS BURNED OUT OF THEIR HOMES IN ORANGE

Cases of water
Hair brushes/combs
Shampoo/Conditioner
Lotion

Toothpaste and Toothbrushes
Gently used blankets
Deodorant



Bring donations the main office in your school
Mr. Reggie Miller
973-675-5617

IF YOU LOVE A BROTHER, HELP A BROTHER

Approved BR 11/17/14

Orange Preparatory Academy and Orange High School
PERFORMING ARTS DEPARTMENTS
proudly present

SUSPENSE

**INTRIGUE
MYSTERY**

Advanced
GENERAL SEATING
\$5.00

GENERAL SEATING
(at the door)
\$7.00

Students (with Valid ID)
and
Senior Citizen
\$5.00



Written by
Tim Kelly

Directed by
Dana Levin

WHO-DUN-IT??

December 4 and 5, 2014 at 7:00 pm
December 6, 2014 at 2:00 and 7:00 pm

Call 973-677-4000 x5665
for more information

Freely adapted from the classic comedy by
Sir Arthur Conan Doyle & William Gillette
Pioneer Drama Service

EXCITEMENT



Voices in Harmony Presents

Behind The Curtain

concert series featuring

**SEATING
LIMITED**

"Holiday Favorites"

FRIDAY DECEMBER 12TH AT ORANGE PREPARATORY ACADEMY

SESSION ONE 5:30 - 6:30

SESSION TWO 7:00 - 8:00

~ TICKETS \$10 ~

**SEATING
LIMITED**

Come join us for an intimate concert *ON STAGE* behind the curtain where the members of Voices in Harmony will perform music from select artists and genres in a night club setting. Refreshments will be served. Help the award winning *Voices in Harmony* as we fundraise for our next competition.