



# OBO *E-Mail* Blast

SEPTEMBER 21, 2012

VOLUME 2, NUMBER 3



## Great American SpellCheck Postponed

**The Great American SpellCheck, scheduled for September 24, 2012, is postponed until Wednesday, October 3, 2012.** The new date will ensure that students in grades 1 – 8, district-wide, perform optimally on the spelling test, which is a precursor to the school spelling bees, the district Spelling Bee of Champions, and the region's Local Bee, sponsored by The Record and Herald News.



Good luck to all the students, as they prepare for the Great American SpellCheck and their school Spelling Bee. The school bees, scheduled to date are:

- Park Avenue School – Tuesday, November 6
- Cleveland Street School – Wednesday, November 7
- Heywood Avenue School – Friday, November 16
- Rosa Parks Central Community School – Wednesday, November 21
- Forest Street School – Monday, November 26
- Lincoln Avenue – Tuesday, December 4
- Orange Preparatory Academy – Friday, December 14

For more information about the Great American SpellCheck and the school Spelling Bees, email [orangeis12beat@orange.k12.nj.us](mailto:orangeis12beat@orange.k12.nj.us).



## Office of Food Services Accepting Lunch Applications

The Orange Public Schools' Office of Food Services, under the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs, is accepting applications for free or reduced-price lunches for students, for the 2012-2013 school year. Only one Free or Reduced Lunch application is required per family. Household size and income are used to determine eligibility for free or reduced-price meal benefits.



For your convenience, the Free or Reduced Lunch Application may be completed on-line (see flyer below or click here.) As a further benefit to parents, the Orange Public Schools also offers a safe, easy and convenient way to prepay for school meals through MealpayPlus, an online prepayment system. For more information about MealpayPlus, see flyer below or click here.

Information about the Office of Food Services under the direction of Mr. Tyrone Dorsey, Food Service Manager, can be found on the district's website under "Our District" or on each school's homepage.

Spanish versions of the flyers, mentioned above, are included below.



## Back To School Night Held at Orange Elementary Schools



Beginning the second week of school, Orange Public Schools have been hosting Back to School Nights to provide parents with the opportunity to learn more about their child's teachers, and the instruction their children will receive in each of their classes. Back to School Night is also an opportunity to acquaint parents with the school's policies, procedures, and administration.

The remaining Back to School Nights are:

- Orange High School – Tuesday, September 25, 2012, from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.
- Career and Innovation Academy of Orange (CIAO) – Wednesday, September 26, 2012, from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.
- Orange Preparatory Academy – Thursday, September 27, 2012, from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.



**Pictured: Scenes from Lincoln Avenue School and Park Avenue School's Back to School Night including PTO Welcome table at Park Avenue.**



## **Lincoln Avenue Vs. the Tornado, A Report on Back to School Night:**

At Lincoln Avenue School, despite heavy rains, damaging winds and the threat of a tornado, 581 parents made it a priority to attend back to school night last Tuesday. Parents and guardians were greeted by Lincoln's PTO President, David Armstrong, Vice President, Elvis Paulino and Chair Person for Fund Raising/Activities, Silva Ramos (pictured left), who encouraged them all to join the PTO and play an active role in the collaborative, school-wide decision making process.



After a few words from Mr. Pettit, Lincoln Avenue School's Principal, regarding the plan for the evening and district/school goals for the year, parents were escorted by their children to visit all their classes. Parents in Mrs. Amokoah's 1st grade class (pictured right) received an overview of class expectations, the Journeys Literacy and Everyday Mathematics Programs, learning objectives and alignment with the new Common Core State Standards. It was an exciting and informative evening for everyone; all and all another successful Lincoln Avenue School event.



*(Submitted by Lincoln Avenue School. Please note: Back to School Night was held on Tuesday, September 18, for grades K-4, and on September 19, for grades 5 - 7)*



## **International Day of Peace Celebrated at Heywood Avenue School**

At Heywood Avenue School, art teacher, Kelly Grzesiak's students decorated the walkway of the school in the name of peace. To recognize International Peace Day, Friday, September 21, 2012, students made pinwheels and placed them along the path to their school.

*"Pinwheels for Peace is an art installation project started in 2005 by two Art teachers, Ann Ayers and Ellen McMillan, who teach at Monarch High School in Coconut Creek, Florida, as a way for their students to express their feelings about what's going on in the world and in their lives. The project was quickly embraced by their students and the entire school community and by millions of art teachers, teachers, parents, children and adults who desire peace in our world." To learn more visit [The Pinwheels For Peace Project](#).*



**Visit Heywood Avenue School to see "Pinwheels for Peace".**



## Monthly Art Opening at the Board of Education Building

Orange High School kicked off the monthly Orange Board of Education art display for September with a variety of art forms. Students who had their work displayed at the board office received certificates to acknowledge their artistic talents, during an opening reception on Wednesday, September 19th. Present to congratulate the students were Supervisor of Visual and Performing Arts, Mr. Peter Crosta, Co-Principal Ms. Kahlisha Morgan, Superintendent of Schools, Mr. Ronald C. Lee, Deputy Superintendent, Dr. Paula Howard, and art teachers, Ms. Shana Falda, Ms. Megan Guerriero and Mr. Christopher Cosmillo.

This monthly gallery of student work will remain in place until the end of the month. Each month another school will have student work displayed as follows:

School	Date
	2012
Park Avenue	October 3
Central/Orange Early Childhood Center	November 7
Cleveland Street	December 5
	2013
Oakwood Avenue	January 9
Heywood Avenue	February 6
Lincoln Avenue	March 6
Rosa Parks Central Community	April 3
Forest Street	May 8
Orange Preparatory Academy	June 6

The Board of Education is located at 451 Lincoln Avenue, Orange. The opening receptions are held from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.



**Pictured: (row, left to right) Shaun Atkins, Nedale Guzman, Amanda Valentino (back row, left to right) Shana Falda, art teacher, Kalisha Morgan, Co-Principal, Megan Guerriero and Christopher Cosmillo, art teachers and Ronald Lee, Superintendent of Schools; Ms. Falda and Ms. Morgan stand in front of artwork; Student Shaun Atkins poses with artwork and certificate with his teacher Ms. Guerriero.**



**Pictured: A young visitor, Marisa, admires the ceramic display; Sample sketches; Sample fiber arts work.**



## Heywood Avenue School Holds First Achievement Breakfast Celebration (A.B.C.)

Heywood Avenue School's 1st Achievement Breakfast Celebration (A.B.C.) event was held on Friday, September 21st at 8:00 a.m., before the start of school. The event was the result of a challenge made in April 2012 during the school's



New Jersey Assessment of Skills and Knowledge (NJASK) Pep Rally. "I challenged the students in grades 4-7 to raise their NJASK scores by 15 points or more from the previous year, to be part of the A.B.C. event in September," said Principal, Ms. Karen Machuca. "The objective was very simple," she continued, "Show your growth!"

There were 50 students who met the criteria for this celebration. Each student was sent an invitation with his or her accomplishment noted. As an example, one student scored 135 in Language Arts Literacy last year and this year they reached 195. "This is a 60 point gain," states, Ms. Machuca. "Proficient and then Advanced Proficient is right around the corner for this student!"

To acknowledge the achievement of each student present, Superintendent of Schools, Mr. Ronald C. Lee, stopped by the A.B.C. Breakfast to congratulate the students, along with several parents who were there to assist and support the effort.



**Pictured: Scenes from the A.B.C. Breakfast.**



## **The Orange Public School District Celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month**

During the National Hispanic Heritage Month, **September 15 – October 15, 2012**, the Orange Public School District will pay "tribute to generations of Hispanics who have positively influenced and enriched our nation and society."

Schools will honor the histories and cultures of:

- Spain
- Mexico
- Latin American – Central America, South America, and the Caribbean.

The Orange Board Of Education will celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month throughout the district with a focus on academics and the exploration of all aspects of the Hispanic and Latina culture including literature (poetry, drama, prose), laws, history, ethics, agriculture, economy, lifestyle, arts, music, and societal values.

The district has outlined content area to provide resources or suggestions for their department, which is steeped in content and aligned with the Common Core State Standards.

Individual schools will announce various events and displays in each school throughout the month long celebration.



**Pictured (above) Past Hispanic Heritage Month Celebrations and displays.**

## **Coming Attractions**

- **Tuesday, September 25 – OHS Back to School Night, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.**
- **Wednesday, September 26 – Sankofa Rehearsals, 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. at Rosa Parks Central Community School, Room 411 (See flyer below)**
- **Wednesday, September 26 – CIAO Back to School Night, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.**
- **Thursday, September 27 – OPA Back to School Night, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.**
- **Thursday, September 27 – Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Policy Training, 4:00 – 6:00 p.m., Board of Education Building**
- **Wednesday, October 3, 2012 – Orange Board of Education Art Opening, featuring Park Avenue**

School, 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. Board of Education Building, 451 Lincoln Avenue, Orange (See flyer below)

- Wednesday, October 3, 2012 – Students in grades 1-8 will participate in the "Great American SpellCheck"



The Orange Public Schools' Premiere Adult Vocal Ensemble



## Lift Every Voice and Sing... *till earth and heaven ring!*

### **NOW ACCEPTING MEMBERS!!**

Never sang in a choir? Never sang at ALL?! Well now's your big chance!

There is NO AUDITION for Sankofa Ensemble! The only requirement is a desire to sing and to be part of a positive community experience.

**What:** Sankofa Ensemble Rehearsals

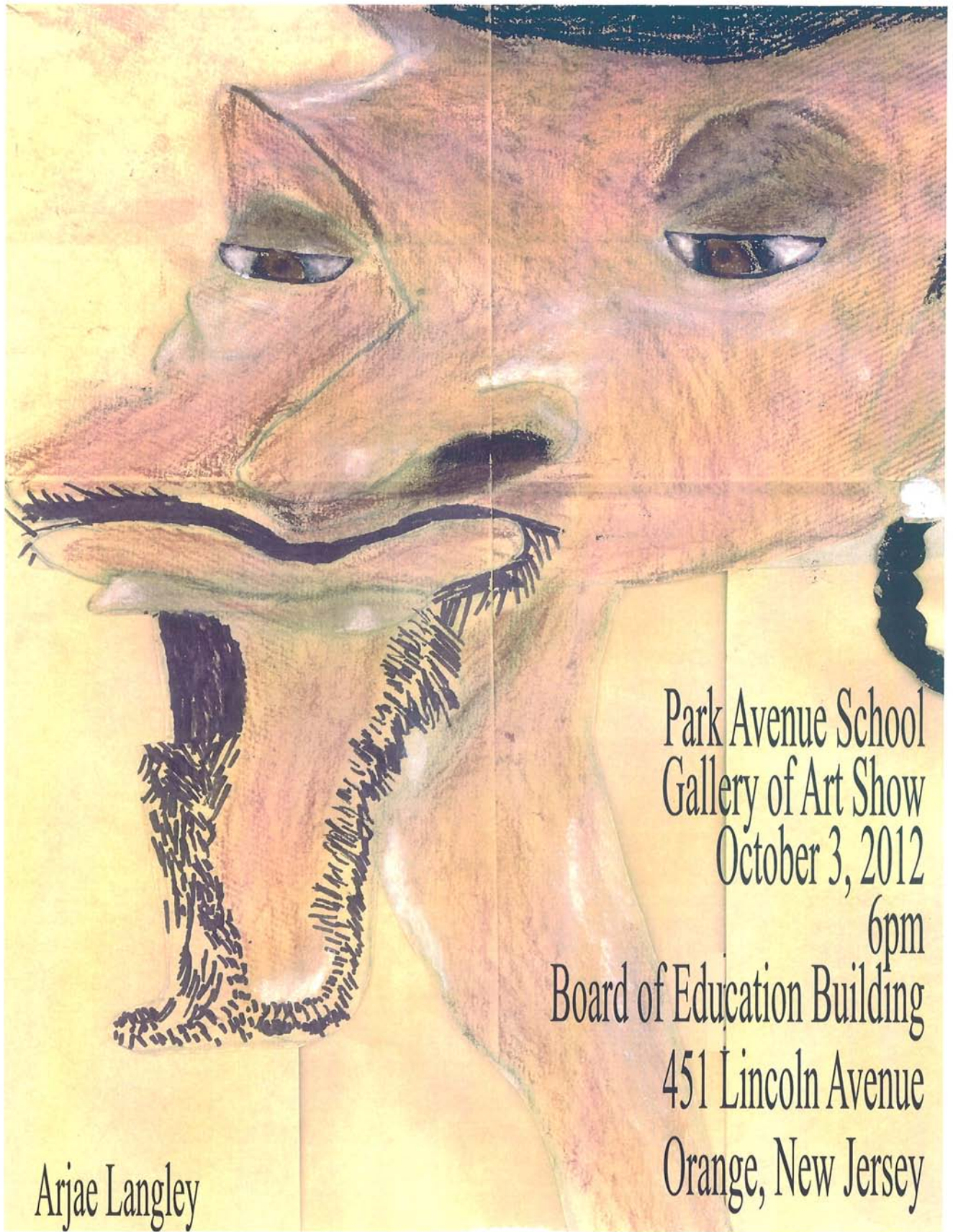
**When:** Wednesdays, starting Sept. 26, 2012

**Where:** RPCCS, 369 Main Street, Room 411

**Time:** 5:00-7:00 pm

**Other:** Come to sing an eclectic repertoire of music while learning more about individual and group vocal technique.





Arjae Langley

Park Avenue School  
Gallery of Art Show  
October 3, 2012  
6pm  
Board of Education Building  
451 Lincoln Avenue  
Orange, New Jersey



▶ Free & Reduced Online Application



### Attention Parents!

You can now submit your free and reduced-price meal applications **online!**

It's easy to get started. Go to: [www.orange.k12.nj.us](http://www.orange.k12.nj.us) (District Food Service)

- Secure website
- No lost paper work
- Receive benefits faster
- No more wondering what happens to forms containing private information
- Receive confirmation e-mail

For questions, contact

Name: TYRONE DORSEY

Phone: 1 877 339 - 3310

Email: [Dorseyt@mail.orange.k12.nj.us](mailto:Dorseyt@mail.orange.k12.nj.us)







► Solicitud en Línea – Gratis y A Precio Reducido



### ¡Atención Padres!

¡Ahora pueden presentar **en línea** sus solicitudes para las comidas gratis y a precio reducido!

Hacerlo es muy fácil. Vaya a: [www.orange.k12.us](http://www.orange.k12.us) ( District Food Service )

- Sitio seguro en la Red
- Sin tener que perder documentos
- Reciba los beneficios de manera más rápida
- Sin tener que preocuparse por lo que pasa con su información privada contenida en las solicitudes
- Reciba la confirmación por correo electrónico

Si tiene alguna pregunta, contacte a:

Nombre: TYRONE DORSEY

Teléfono: 1 877 339-3310

Correo Electrónico: [Dorseyty@mail.orange.k12.nj.us](mailto:Dorseyty@mail.orange.k12.nj.us)







# MyPaymentsPlus &

## Orange Board of Education

# Making Life a Whole Lot Easier

### With MyPaymentsPlus.com, you can:

- View your child's account balance online, anytime
- Quickly make payments toward your student's meals (auto-pay also available)
- See what your child is purchasing in the cafeteria
- Set up automatic e-mail reminders to notify you when the balance is low

### MyPaymentsPlus has many other benefits:

- Speeds up serving lines in the cafeteria, providing more time for students to eat their meals
- Eliminates the worry of lost or forgotten lunch money
- Ensures that your student will receive a nutritious meal

Parents are encouraged to create a FREE account at:  
[www.MyPaymentsPlus.com](http://www.MyPaymentsPlus.com)

### Signing up is FREE and easy!

- Visit [www.MyPaymentsPlus.com](http://www.MyPaymentsPlus.com) or call 888-269-1607
- Click "Register a FREE account" and follow the simple onscreen instructions
- Add your student by using their Student ID number



Once you complete your free registration, enter your login information below.

Username:

Password:

[www.MyPaymentsPlus.com](http://www.MyPaymentsPlus.com)



# MyPaymentsPlus &

## Orange Board of Education

# Haciendo la Vida Más Fácil

### Con MyPaymentsPlus, usted puede:

- Ver el saldo de la cuenta de su hijo en línea, en cualquier momento
- Hacer pagos rápidos para las comidas de su hijo (también se encuentra disponible el pago automático)
- Ver lo que su hijo está comprando en la cafetería
- Establecer correos electrónicos automáticos para recordarle cuando el saldo en la cuenta de su estudiante está bajo

### MyPaymentsPlus ofrece otros beneficios:

- Reduce el tiempo de espera en la línea de la cafetería, proviendo más tiempo para que los estudiantes coman sus comidas
- Elimina la preocupación de perder u olvidar el dinero para el almuerzo
- Asegura que su hijo reciba una comida nutritiva

Se anima a que los padres crean una cuenta GRATIS en:  
[www.MyPaymentsPlus.com](http://www.MyPaymentsPlus.com)

### ¡Registrarse es GRATIS y fácil!

- Visite [www.MyPaymentsPlus.com](http://www.MyPaymentsPlus.com)
- Haga clic en "Register a FREE account" y siga las instrucciones sencillas en la pantalla
- Añada a su estudiante usando el número de ID del estudiante



Una vez que complete su registro gratuito, ingrese la información que aparece abajo:

Nombre del usuario:

Contraseña:

[www.MyPaymentsPlus.com](http://www.MyPaymentsPlus.com)