

# WEEKLY UPDATES

SEPTEMBER 15, 2023  
EDITION

WHAT'S NEW  
FROM  
DR. FITZHUGH



Good Day Orange School District Families & Staff,

I hope this communication finds you well. Additionally, I am hopeful each of you are in great health and spirit. As shared in the August 2023 letter to all families, I am continuing this school year with the Superintendent's Weekly Update.

This will allow our families and staff to stay in the know as it relates to all things Orange Public Schools.

As we began SY 23-24 on Thursday, September 7, 2023, you could certainly see the positive energy and focus on pedagogy as well as social emotional supports district wide. Thank you to all ensuring that our scholars returned to school focused and ready for all the academic and social emotional opportunities available to them. Our staff were ready to receive students as soon as the bell rang at all locations.

As a reminder, continue to visit our district website [www.orange.k12.nj.us](http://www.orange.k12.nj.us) under latest news and information as well as our social media handles to get the most up to date district updates. As promised, we will continue to provide information in real time, so you are always in the know.

As always, I thank you for your continued support and belief in our school district. I extend to each of you a great weekend.

Educationally yours,  
Gerald Fitzhugh, II, Ed.D.  
Superintendent of Schools

# COMMUNITY EVENTS

## FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL REFLECTIONS

ON SEPTEMBER 7TH, 2023, ALL SCHOOLS IN THE DISTRICT WELCOMED STUDENTS TO A NEW ACADEMIC YEAR.

AT ALL DISTRICT SCHOOLS, STAFF GREETED STUDENTS AND FAMILIES IN MANY DIVERSE WAYS. IT WAS SUCH A GREAT WAY TO START THE SCHOOL YEAR. BELOW ARE SOME PICTURES THAT WERE CAPTURED, BUT I ENCOURAGE YOU TO CHECK OUT OUR DISTRICT SOCIAL MEDIA HANDLES FOR A FULL COMPLIMENT OF WHAT OCCURRED BY EACH SCHOOL.



# COMMUNITY EVENTS

## VERIZON DIGITAL PROMISE KICK OFF PROGRAM



## EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

**Verizon Digital Promise Kick Off Program**: took place at Orange High School, Oakwood Avenue, and Orange Preparatory Academy of Inquiry and Innovation on Saturday, September 9, 2023. What a great experience the kickoff program was. The students and their parents came out in droves to receive their laptop. Furthermore, events planned by the schools allowed for interaction with the community. This program amassed over 7 million dollars in products for our staff and students.

**[Click HERE to read the full details of the day's event.](#)**

# COMMUNITY EVENTS

## DISTRICT CALENDAR



Families and staff, as you plan your days and weeks, the following link (<https://www.orange.k12.nj.us/Page/31659>) to the district calendar approved by the Board of Education in February 2023.

The calendar can assist you by knowing all days in session and off session. Should you have any questions, you are encouraged to email [reopeningofschools@orange.k12.nj.us](mailto:reopeningofschools@orange.k12.nj.us).

Throughout the course of this year, the [reopeningofschools@orange.k12.nj.us](mailto:reopeningofschools@orange.k12.nj.us) email has remained intact in order to answer questions that you may have during this unique experience. While email responses are often returned within hours of receipt, please allow 24-48 hours for an email response. The district wants you to hear from us with any and all questions that you have. It is very important to keeping staff and families informed, particularly during these times.

Please find the district calendar for SY 23-24 using the following link: <https://www.orange.k12.nj.us/Page/32723>.

## BACK-TO-SCHOOL NIGHT

Families, the district announced Back to School Night in the beginning of July 2023 for planning purposes. Below is the listing of Back to School Nights. Please be reminded that these nights are in person at the school location. Back to School Nights began on Monday, September 11, 2023 at Orange High School and Twilight and concluding on Thursday, September 14, 2024 at Orange Early Childhood Center as well as Oakwood Avenue School. Parents, thank you for showing up and out for your scholars. We are certainly beginning in the right direction as it relates to Core Focus Area One of our Strategic Plan: Strong Home-School Community Connection as well as Core Focus Area Four Rigorous and Relevant Curricula and Instruction. Parents, continue to ask questions. We are here to support the scholars through and through. We need ALL students present and ready to learn each and every day from pre-kindergarten to Grade Twelve.

NAME OF SCHOOL	DATES FOR BACK-TO-SCHOOL NIGHT
CENTRAL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2023
CLEVELAND STREET SCHOOL	WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2023
FOREST STREET COMMUNITY SCHOOL	TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2023
HEYWOOD AVENUE SCHOOL	MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2023
JOHN ROBERT LEWIS ECC	MONDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2023
LINCOLN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2023
OAKWOOD AVENUE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2023
ORANGE EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER	THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2023
ORANGE HIGH SCHOOL	MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2023
ORANGE PREPARATORY ACADEMY OF INQUIRY & INNOVATION	MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2023
PARK AVENUE SCHOOL	TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2023
ROSA PARKS COMMUNITY SCHOOL	WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2023
SCHOLARS ACADEMY	THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2023
STEM INNOVATION ACADEMY OF THE ORANGES	TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2023
TWILIGHT PROGRAM	MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2023

# COMMUNITY EVENTS



Orange Public Schools  
Office of Early Childhood Learning  
Jacquelyn Blanton, Ed.D, Executive Director of Early Learning

## 2023-2024 School Year

## Preschool Registration

**MUST BE 3-YEARS-OLD  
BY OCTOBER 1, 2023!**

### PROGRAM INCLUDES:

- Breakfast & Lunch
- Special Needs & ELL Services
- High Scope Curriculum
- Certified Trained Staff
- Middle States Accredited
- And a lot more...

**ORANGE  
RESIDENTS  
ONLY!**

### DATES:

OCTOBER 3, 10, 17, 24, 31  
10:00-12:00

REGISTRATION LOCATION:  
ORANGE EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER  
397 PARK AVE, ORANGE, NJ

VISIT OUR WEBSITE: [ORANGE.K12.NJ.US/DOMAIN/528](http://ORANGE.K12.NJ.US/DOMAIN/528)

### REQUIRED DOCUMENTS:

Child's Original Birth Certificate

Vaccination Record

Current Lease or Mortgage Statement

2 Additional Proofs of address

Photo I.D. of Parent/Guardian

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

Orange Early Childhood Program includes all children regardless of abilities. If you are concerned that your child is learning or developing differently, you can call the District to request an evaluation for preschool special education and related services.

# COMMUNITY EVENTS

## SCHOOL YEAR ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE TIMES FOR STAFF AND STUDENTS SY 2023-2024:

SCHOOL LEVEL	ARRIVAL TIME FOR STUDENTS	ARRIVAL TIME FOR STAFF	END TIME FOR STUDENTS	END TIME FOR STAFF
ELEMENTARY LEVEL (INCLUDING PRE-KINDERGARTEN)	8:30 AM	8:20 AM	3:00 PM	3:10 PM
ORANGE HIGH SCHOOL	8:20 AM	8:05 AM	2:40 PM	2:55 PM
ORANGE PREPARATORY ACADEMY OF INQUIRY AND INNOVATION	8:25 AM	8:20 AM	2:50 PM	2:55 PM
STEM INNOVATION ACADEMY OF THE ORANGES	8:20 AM	8:15 AM	MONDAYS 2:20 PM FOR TEACHER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT  TUES - FRI 3:30 PM	4PM*  *INCLUDES STIPEND
TWILIGHT PROGRAM	3:30 PM* *3:00 PM - LUNCH	3:00 PM	7:30 PM	7:30 PM

As a reminder, the following chart outlines the school start and end times for this school year. As shared in June and August 2022, these times were presented via letter as well at board of education meetings.

## ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY LUNCH MENUS FOR SEPTEMBER 2023

The following links will allow all families to view the preschool, elementary, and secondary lunch menus for September 2023.

- **Pre-School:** [Click HERE for Pre-School.](#)
- **Elementary:** [Click HERE for Elementary Schools.](#)
- **Middle School:** [Click HERE for Middle School.](#)
- **Orange High School/Twilight:** [Click HERE for Orange High School/Twilight.](#)
- **STEM Innovation Academy of the Oranges:** [Click HERE for STEM Innovation Academy of the Oranges](#)

# COMMUNITY EVENTS



## BOARD MEETING DATES & REMINDERS

### Event Highlights

The Board of Education voted to change their monthly meetings from Tuesday to Wednesday evenings at the Reorganization Meeting. Kindly review the new dates for SY 23-24.

#### 2023 BOARD OF EDUCATION BUSINESS MEETING SCHEDULE:

Wednesday, October 11, 2023  
Wednesday, November 8, 2023  
Wednesday, December 13, 2023

#### UPCOMING COMMITTEE/BOARD MEETINGS (PUBLIC)

- Public Relations Committee Virtual Meeting -  
Wednesday, October 4, 2023, at 4:00 p.m.
- Orange Board Education Public Board Meeting -  
Wednesday, October 11, 2023, at 7:30p.m., held at OPA-II,  
400 Central Avenue, Orange, NJ, 07050.  
Will Recess until 6:45pm, but no later than 7:30pm.

#### DISTRICT GOALS AND THE STRATEGIC PLAN REMINDERS

As we continue to Move into Greatness, I want our families and staff to continue to engage with the strategic plan and district goals.

The following link is for the District Goals: <https://www.orange.k12.nj.us/Page/30018>.

The following link is for the Strategic Plan: <https://www.orange.k12.nj.us/domain/3344>.