

THE ORANGE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

WEEKLY UPDATE

AUGUST 15, 2024 EDITION

A MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Good Day Orange Township Public School District Community,

In just a matter of weeks, the Orange Public School district will reopen to staff and students. Throughout the summer months, the Board of Education, district leaders, and curriculum writers embarked on a mission to work diligently to provide an intentional and smooth transition as we start SY 2024-2025. Additionally, we reflected on the prior school year to make the upcoming school year our best yet. Prior to the end of the school year, the district developed the Professional Development Plan alongside each school that created one as well. These plans were reflective on data as well as social emotional learning necessary to develop the entire child.

Great news, Cleveland Street School will reopen as previously shared at their original site in September 2024. So, this means that our staff and students will return to 355 Cleveland Street and the first day of school will take place at the renovated original location. Further, students and staff will no longer be in the swing space (Our Lady of the Valley). This summer, staff's materials will be shipped over to the new school to prepare for the first day of school on September 6th. This is such great news for our school community.

Scholarships totaling over 25 million dollars this past school year, the largest amount we have garnered in our school district. Congratulations to the Class of 2024, we are so proud of you. As a district, we continue to embrace our five-year strategic plan coined "Moving into Greatness 2021-2026." The district continues to have a focus on the instructional program coupled with the social emotional supports for staff and students. As a school community we leaned on one another, grew from lessons learned, and celebrated our successes as one Orange. Our narrative is gaining momentum not only throughout the state but nationally. This is important because building relationships is vital to our movement as a district. I will continue to intimate that success comes two-fold when we work together. The district will continue to share our narrative which will give you an outlook of things accomplished.

The beginning of a new school year reminds us that the future holds infinite possibilities. I hope that your summer vacation continues to be relaxing, filled with adventures and good health because you deserve it. The opportunity to refuel over the summer is a necessary component of the important work that we do. I know that we are about to begin a great school year filled with hope, vision, and excitement. As we begin this school year, I wish everyone the greatest success as we welcome over 5,600 students to their educational journey of 2024-2025.

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



UPCOMING PUBLIC BOARD MEETINGS

ORANGE BOARD EDUCATION PUBLIC BOARD MEETING

WEDNESDAY,
SEPTEMBER 11, 2024
AT 7:30 P.M.,

ORANGE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Administrative Building
BOARD CONFERENCE ROOM
451 Lincoln Avenue,
Orange, NJ, 07050.
Will Recess until 6:45pm,
but no later than 7:30pm.

NEW ADMINISTRATION SPOTLIGHTS



NANCY MASOUD

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES

Nancy Masoud is the new Executive Director of Human Resources for the Orange Public School District. With a diverse and accomplished background in education and human resources, Ms. Masoud is dedicated to supporting the district's personnel and ensuring a high standard of education.

Ms. Masoud holds a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice and a Master of Arts in Teaching, both from Fairleigh Dickinson University. She furthered her education with a second Master of Arts in Urban Education Leadership Administration and Supervision from New Jersey City University. She is currently pursuing a Doctorate in Higher Education Administration from St. Peter's University.

Ms. Masoud's professional experience spans several key roles in education. Most recently, she served as the Special Assistant Director of Human Resources, where she managed recruitment processes, developed training programs, and streamlined HR operations. Her previous roles include District Supervisor of Mathematics and Mathematics Instructional Specialist, where she provided professional development, supported teachers, and improved student achievement through data-driven strategies.

Ms. Masoud has been recognized for her contributions to education, including being named Teacher of the Year and Educational Services Professional of the Year. Ms. Masoud is committed to enhancing the educational environment by overseeing the recruitment and development of qualified staff members. In her role as Human Resources Executive Director for the public school district, she not only facilitates the certification and onboarding processes for new hires but also focuses on fostering a positive and inclusive workplace culture. Ms. Masoud actively works on ensuring compliance with educational standards and aligning HR strategies with the district's goals. Her dedication to nurturing talent and upholding organizational values has been a hallmark of her successful career.

Ms. Masoud is excited to bring her expertise and passion for education to the Orange Public School District, where she will work to support and empower all district personnel.

Please join us in welcoming Nancy Masoud to the Orange Community!

NEW ADMINISTRATION SPOTLIGHTS



TERENCE WESLEY

PRINCIPAL OF CLEVELAND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Mr. Wesley is a dedicated leader with 16 years of experience in education, holding a B.S. in Applied Science and Engineering from Rutgers University and an M.A. in Educational Leadership from Seton Hall University. He began his career as a Mathematics Teacher in Newark, NJ, before advancing to the role of assistant principal, where he excelled for eight years.

During his tenure as an Assistant Principal at Rosa Parks Community School, Mr. Wesley was instrumental in pioneering blended learning in math classes, which significantly boosted student performance. At East Harlem Scholars Academy in New York, his leadership was pivotal in achieving a remarkable 20% increase in math test scores within just one year.

Now serving as the new Principal of Cleveland Street Elementary School, Mr. Wesley is deeply committed to enhancing instructional programming and the overall student experience. He is driven by the belief that every student has the potential to learn and succeed when schools adapt to meet their diverse needs.

Please join us in welcoming back Terence Wesley to the Orange Community!



RICHELE WOODS

PRINCIPAL OF HEYWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Ms. Richele Woods has provided 20 years of service and dedication to educating children to excel in all their endeavors and aspirational goals. She affectionately refers to all her students as, "her babies". Her educational career includes personal assistant, teaching, instructional coaching, and leadership in her hometown Paterson, NJ and Jacksonville, FL.

In her role as Principal, Ms. Woods is known for connecting with scholars and staff to cultivate a joyful and caring environment for high-quality education and assessments. She is passionate about teaching and learning, passionate about instilling a love of reading in children and passionate about all students' progress and achievement.

Richele holds a Bachelor's degree in Communications from William Paterson University. She went on to obtain a Masters of Art degree in Curriculum and Instruction and Masters of Education degrees Autism Spectrum Disorders, both from Fairleigh Dickinson University. She furthered her education with a Post Master of Arts in Education Leadership from New Jersey City University.

In her new role as Principal at Heywood Avenue School, Ms. Woods is seeking to build strong relationships with parents and teachers to promote a collaborative "Wildcats Way"! She believes in creating a fun-filled atmosphere that supports students' academic, social and emotional development!

During her free time, she enjoys listening to music, dancing, reading, and most of all spending time with her family! Join the Orange School District in welcoming Ms. Woods to the Orange Public School District Family where she will instill the value of moving Heywood Avenue School to GREATNESS.

Please join us in welcoming Richele Woods to the Orange Community!

NEW ADMINISTRATION SPOTLIGHTS



NAGA PHILKHANA

ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL OF ROSA PARKS COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Ms. Philkhana is a passionate educator with expertise in leadership, professional development, coaching, curriculum development, and technology integration, aimed at strengthening instruction in Math, Science, Technology, and Literacy. She possesses an extensive academic background in STEM, Public Relations, and School Administration.

Ms. Philkhana is deeply committed to enhancing teachers' content knowledge, pedagogy, and use of technology and digital platforms. She coaches and promotes standards-based instruction that achieves high success rates on high-stakes Standards-Based Assessments. She has successfully established self-sustained, teacher-led Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) and is recognized for her ability to work effectively with all her teachers. She leads with compassion without compromising expectations and deliverables. Her experience spans elementary, middle, and high school environments.

Please join us in welcoming Naga Philkhana to the Orange Community!



LOREDANA CATTABIANI

SUPERVISOR OF EARLY LEARNING

Ms. Loredana Cattabiani will be joining our administrative team as the Supervisor of Early Learning. She brings over 20 years of experience in education, having served as an elementary school teacher, middle school math and science teacher, preschool owner/director, District Academic Coach for Elementary Schools, and member of the New Jersey Department of Education's Consortium for Academic Coaches.

She holds a Master's in Educational Supervision and Administration from University of Phoenix and a Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education from Kean University. Ms. Cattabiani is a doctoral candidate for Educational Leadership. She has extensive experience in curriculum development, instructional technology, and integrating innovative methods that enhance student learning.

Ms. Cattabiani is deeply committed to fostering a positive and inclusive school environment. She has a proven track record of building strong community partnerships and believes in the power of collaboration between educators, parents, and community members to support student success. She is the two time recipient of the Brick Township Community Hero Award for her commitment to building strong school-community programs to help support at-risk students. In addition Ms. Cattabiani started a school character initiative that led to the national accreditation of a School of Character.

Ms. Cattabiani and Heath Cohn have five children and are actively involved in community activities, volunteering and supporting local arts and sports programs. Their involvement and dedication to the community reflect Ms. Cattabiani's commitment to fostering a strong connection between the school, families and the community. Ms. Cattabiani is eager to meet the Orange Public Schools community and looks forward to working together to create a nurturing and dynamic learning environment for all students.

Please join us in welcoming Loredana Cattabiani to the Orange Community!



EMLY LAMBOY

SUPERVISOR OF BILINGUAL/ESL & WORLD LANGUAGES

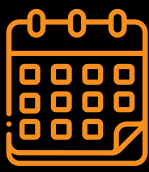
Ms. Emily Lamboy is the proud daughter of 2 Amazing parents who have always been and continue to be her role models and mentors in life. They instilled meaningful morals / values that she still firmly holds in her heart and lives by today. Family is one of the most important things for Ms. Lamboy.

Ms. Lamboy is a proud graduate of Arts High School where she majored in Music. While there she was a member of the orchestra, playing the violin and the piano. Ms. Lamboy earned her BA in Elementary Education from Montclair State University. Ms. Lamboy absolutely loves learning and is always up for a challenge. She attended two Universities at the same time earning her Bilingual, English as a Second Language, and her Teacher of Student with Disabilities State Certification. Ms. Lamboy also holds a Masters Degree in Educational Administration from Kean University.

Ms. Lamboy has been in the educational field for 23 years. She has held various roles, including General Education - Inclusion - Bilingual - ESL Teacher, Resource Specialist, Supervisor, and Vice Principal. She has taught students in grades Pre-K all the way to Adults. Ms. Lamboy also has a passion for athletics. She played Volleyball in high school and in college. Currently, she is a member of the board for the Baseball League that she assists in running as well as coaches in.

Ms. Lamboy is always willing to give a helping hand and serve those around her without expecting anything in return. She truly believes that all children can learn when given the opportunity and proper tools needed to succeed.

Please join us in welcoming Emily Lamboy to the Orange Community!

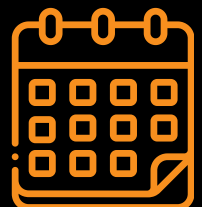
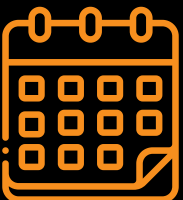


COMMUNITY EVENTS



Back to School Night 2024:

Name of School	Date
• Central Elementary School	Thursday, September 12, 2024
• Cleveland Street School	Tuesday, October 1, 2024
• Forest Street Community School	Monday, September 9, 2024
• Heywood Avenue School	Monday, September 30, 2024
• John Robert Lewis ECC	Tuesday, September 24, 2024
• Lincoln Elementary School	Wednesday, September 18, 2024
• Oakwood Avenue Elementary School	Monday, September 16, 2024
• Orange Early Childhood Center	Wednesday, September 25, 2024
• Orange High School	Tuesday, September 10, 2024
• Orange Preparatory Academy of Inquiry and Innovation	Thursday, September 19, 2024
• Park Avenue School	Tuesday, September 17, 2024
• Rosa Parks Community School	Monday, September 23, 2024
• Scholars Academy	Thursday, September 26, 2024
• STEM Innovation Academy of the Oranges	Wednesday, September 11, 2024
• Twilight Program	Tuesday, September 10, 2024




COMMUNITY EVENTS



SCHOOL YEAR ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE TIMES FOR STAFF AND STUDENTS SY 2024-2025:

As a reminder, the following chart outlines the school start and end times for this school year.

As shared in June and August 2024, these times were presented via letter as well at board of education meetings.

 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

REGISTER
NOW

COMMUNITY EVENTS

REGISTER
NOW

GENESIS PARENT PORTAL SIGN UP SUPPORT



WEBSITE: www.orange.k12.nj.us | EMAIL: portaladmin@orange.k12.nj.us

City of Orange Township Public Schools

Parent Access

User Name:

Password:

Login

Forgot My Password

Welcome to the Genesis Parent Access System for the City of Orange Public Schools

Information Regarding the 2023-2024 CEP Household Survey

The Orange Public School District is participating in a federal program available to select schools as part of the National School Lunch Program called the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP). **Our participation means that all students attending the Orange Public Schools are eligible to receive breakfast and lunch at no charge throughout the current school year.** Yearly, your participation is essential in order for us to provide the Department of Education with the information it needs to ensure our school will continue to receive critical state funding.

Click Below to Complete Your Survey Today!

<https://www.orange.k12.nj.us/Page/33280>

Select Language

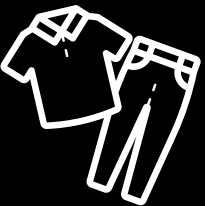
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**DO YOU WISH TO ACCESS YOUR STUDENT'S
ATTENDANCE, ACADEMIC PROGRESS AND MORE IN
REAL-TIME?**

SIGN UP FOR THE GENESIS PARENT PORTAL.

**PLEASE VISIT THE DISTRICT WEBPAGE AT
WWW.ORANGE.K12.NJ.US
TO FIND THE GENESIS PARENT PORTAL
REGISTRATION FORM LINKS IN THE ORANGE BOX
UNDER ANNOUNCEMENTS**



COMMUNITY EVENTS



UNIFORM INITIATIVE DISTRICTWIDE:

AS A REMINDER, UNIFORMS FOR OUR STUDENTS ARE
MANDATED DISTRICT WIDE.

WHEN DRESS DOWN DAYS OCCUR, ALL FAMILIES WILL
RECEIVE THE FOLLOWING:


DOJO/REMIND MESSAGE, FLYER, AND/OR BLAST SENT BY
THE BUILDING ADMINISTRATION.

CONTINUE TO WORK IN TANDEM WITH THE DISTRICT TO
ENSURE THAT YOUR CHILD IS IN UNIFORM EACH AND EVERY
DAY.


WE ARE PROMOTING DRESSING FOR SUCCESS
AS OUR SCHOLARS ARE DESTINED FOR GREATNESS.




Attire for Students




Bottoms



Tops



Sweaters/Vests

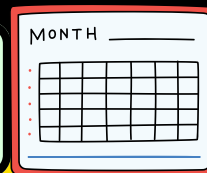


Physical Education



COMMUNITY EVENTS

DISTRICT CALENDAR



The district calendar was approved by the Board of Education several months ago. The district put this information on the Orange School District website as well as pushed out on social media. As a reminder, please find the link for the SY 24-25 calendar. If there are changes throughout the school year, I will ensure you are provided a timely update:

([SY 2024-25 District Calendar](#))

Reopening of Schools Email: The district will continue to utilize the **reopeningofschools@orange.k12.nj.us** email this school year. When you have any questions, no matter how large or small, use this email to get your concerns addressed. Please allow 24 hours for a response, though typically, we strive to get this information to you much sooner.

The district looks forward to seeing our staff on **Tuesday, September 2nd** and our scholars on **Friday, September 6th**. We have certainly missed you all. Rest up and enjoy the remaining days of your summer break.

-Dr. Fitzhugh



District Goals and the Strategic Plan Reminders

The district goals and strategic plan are the guiding force in the development of the Orange Public School District. You are encouraged to review each plan and ask questions related to development of the whole child as well as the district's partnership with families.

The following link is for the District Goals:

<https://www.orange.k12.nj.us/Page/33813>

The following link is for the Strategic Plan:

<https://www.orange.k12.nj.us/domain/3344>