



**Orange Township Public Schools**  
Orange Preparatory Academy  
of Inquiry & Innovation  
**Carrie Halstead, Principal**



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

Michael Dixon, Assistant Principal  
Samantha Fossella, Assistant Principal

August 9, 2022

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Welcome to the new school year and your new school, Orange Preparatory Academy of Inquiry and Innovation. One aspect of our mission is to be a conduit to secondary education, preparing students for high school, college, career and beyond. To ensure that all students are learning and thriving in a positive, safe environment, our district has implemented a Uniform Policy for the 2022-2023 School Year. This was done in consultation with our school community as it is extremely important to have students, families, and staff at the table allowing for sound discourse and decision making. Our roundtables this past spring gave us this opportunity. Our district believes that when students wear uniforms, there is an increased sense of community and pride in our school.

It is important for our new school to be embraced by our new students and there is no other way to that through initiatives that promote school pride and spirit. Orange Preparatory School of Inquiry and Innovation students will stand tall in our community as they move through the town in their new uniforms. Likewise, this Uniform Policy will contribute to the health and safety of our students and to the development of a productive learning environment. Please note, the leadership team alongside student stakeholders are actively planning school pride and spirit initiatives that will allow students to dress down on a number of occasions for the purpose of building the culture of pride and togetherness.

The school wide uniform requirements are as follows:

- Gray or Maroon Polo shirt or White Oxford dress shirt. All shirts must have a collar.
- Black Pants and/or knee length Skirts, Slacks, Skorts made of Khaki material (no jeans or leggings of any kind).
- Gray or Maroon Sweater Vest, Fleece, Blazer, or Vest may be worn.
- Gray or Maroon Sweatshirts and Pants or Shorts for Physical Education (students will bring these to school and change for gym – no gym uniforms will be worn to school).
- Hoodies will not be allowed to worn during the day at Orange Preparatory Academy of Inquiry and Innovation.

We have selected The Uniform Shop @ Kids Place to be one of our school's vendors for high quality uniforms! They will also carry our shirts, vests and blazers with our new school logo. This provider is able to carry a variety of our items at their store. All students purchasing new uniform items for the 2022-2023 school year, can now do so through The Uniform Shop @ Kids Place located at 311 Ferry Street, Newark, NJ 07105 and at 126 Broad Street, Elizabeth, NJ 07201.

Families can also purchase uniforms colors as shared above from other locations such as Target, Walmart, Old Navy, Lands End, etc. Should you have any questions, please contact me directly at [halsteca@orange.k12.nj.us](mailto:halsteca@orange.k12.nj.us).

Lastly, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your family a safe and restful summer.

Sincerely,

*Carrie J. Halstead*

Carrie J. Halstead  
Principal