



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

August 24, 2020

Dear Parents, Guardians and Caregivers of Twilight students,

It is with great pride and pleasure that the faculty and I welcome you into and guide you through the 2020-2021 academic year in the twilight program at Orange High School. It will prove to be a year of innovative and exciting learning experiences for your child(ren) and family. For those of you who may not be familiar with me or the work that I have done, I am an experienced principal of both elementary and secondary schools who has dedicated nearly three decades to the academic achievement and social growth of the students of Orange. I bring with me the experience of a veteran educator, the passion of a lifelong learner, and the commitment of an alumnus of Orange High School (class of '87). To borrow a slogan from Allstate Insurance marketing campaigns, "you are in GREAT hands."

Twilight MISSION STATEMENT

Twilight Program stakeholders are committed to providing a challenging learning environment that is a model of innovation and excellence and maximizes individual potential and aptitude while ensuring that students are well-equipped to meet the challenges in the world around them.

As it may have been explained to you throughout your time with us, this program is highly supportive and designed to either relaunch, reengage, or remediate your child to ensure academic achievement and successful completion of New Jersey's High School graduation requirements and post-secondary pursuits.

The structure has been designed to foster engagement, provide social emotional supports and to monitor the academic needs and growth of all students. The school culture will focus on engagement with real world learning tasks, improved academic performance, post-secondary readiness and the involvement of all stakeholders. It is our expectation that your child(ren) will have a robust experience; one that builds grit and is galvanizing.

The 20-21 School begins virtually on Monday, September 8, 2020 in a way that we have never launched a school year in the past. In the wake of the Co-Vid 19 pandemic, the Orange Public Schools district has worked tirelessly to ensure that our children received continuity in instruction while prioritizing their safety and emotional well-being. As we work to return to full capacity, the district has provided guidance on how our students will transition back to on site instruction. A summary of the staggered reentry plan follows:

It is important to note that students identified as twilight students have been scheduled to receive critical supports in the **soft launch that occurs between November 30 and December 23, 2020**. ALL students are expected to be in attendance unless they have been registered for remote learning this school year. Instructions on how to connect your students as well as yourself to the school, immediately, can be found on page three of this communication. My office hours are from 7 am to 8 pm. You may contact me at ANY time if there is an emergency (my contact information is located in the closing of this letter). I will respond as soon as humanly possible.





The Orange Public Schools School Reopening Guidelines At a Glance



Families can choose from two pathways, (A) full remote learning that allows a family to opt into a fully online curriculum or (B) a hybrid of in-person and remote learning.

Note: Parents must register for the Full Remote option at www.orange.k12.nj.us.



EFFECTIVE NOVEMBER 30, 2020:

ENTRY ROUTINE FOR STUDENTS November 30 to December 23

- 1. Students access the building through the door adjacent to the lot connecting OPA and OHS. All students are required to have a face mask and student ID to enter the facility. All students will be screened for temperature and exposure to the Coronavirus.
- 2. Parents and students will be updated on student arrival time for all phases of reentry. Lunch will not be served, however grab and go breakfast will be available during our reopening phases.
- 3. The District continues to provide packaged 'Grab-and-Go' breakfast and lunch, **during all virtual/remote phases** at no cost to families, at multiple locations for pick up. The selected locations are
 - OECC (includes students from Cleveland Street School), located 397 Park Avenue
 - Scholars Academy, located at 268 Capuchin Way
 - Forest Street School, located 651 Forest Street
 - Heywood Avenue School, located at 421 Heywood Avenue
 - Lincoln Avenue School, 216 Lincoln Avenue
 - Oakwood Avenue School, located at 135 Oakwood Avenue
 - Park Avenue School, located at 231 Park Avenue
 - Rosa Parks Community School, located at 369 Main Street

Please be advised that all locations will host the breakfast/lunch grab and go program from 7:30 AM until 1:30 PM; Monday through Friday. Students may pick up their meal from any of the locations listed above.

Social distancing as well as the wearing of a mask is required when reporting to all locations. It is important to note, once students receive their breakfast/lunch grab and go bags it is the expectation to return to their respective homes.

4. Effective January 4, 2021, students will report to Orange High School for instruction no later than 2:30 pm ** (unless the student's schedule states otherwise) with the above provisions in the first bullet in place. THERE WILL BE HIGH EXPECTATIONS FOR STUDENTS TO REPORT ON TIME, PARTICIPATE IN THE VIRTUAL ENVIRONMENT, AND REMAIN IN THE BUILIDNG FOR THE DURATION OF THEIR INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM. The school success handbook will speak more to this.

DISMISSAL

1. Parents and students will be updated on student dismissal time for all phases of reentry. Effective January 4, 2021, full time twilight students will be dismissed at 8:00 pm. All students are expected to leave the premises promptly and go directly home.

STUDENT ATTIRE FOR ONSITE INSTRUCTION

Students should dress appropriately for a school setting. The district has an established dress code that ALL students will be required to follow. All parents and students will be informed of the required attire.

Other things to note include:

- NO Du-rags or head coverings (i.e. bonnets, fitness head bands, scarves integrated into the hairstyles)
- Physical Education (appropriate physical education apparel)
- The hoods of hooded garments are to remain removed while in school

- Appropriate and safe footwear must be worn at all times. Specifically, no thong sandals, UGG slippers, flip-flops or "slides" are to be worn due to the safety factor when using stairs. All sandals must be secured at the toes and ankle for safety.
- Sneakers must always be worn for physical education classes

STUDENT ABSENCES

Parents are responsible for reporting daily absences to building secretary, 973-677-4050 The district policy indicates that a student must be in attendance for 163 or more school days in order to be considered to have successfully completed the instructional program requirements of the grade/course to which he/she is assigned.

COMMUNICATION

All Twilight Students are encouraged to text **drericas** to 81010 and required to join the virtual homeroom on Google classroom using the following code: **z** 5 **c** t **a** t **r**.

Important announcements, information and virtual attendance take place in the virtual homeroom. Parents should text **drericast** to 81010 and may use **973-826-9399** to communicate via text. My email is <u>stewarer@orange.k12.nj.us</u> (please indicate your child's name when emailing so that I may prioritize the email).

As always, our doors and emails are always open to you any day and any time. We look forward to partnering with you, faculty and district leadership to provide great opportunities for our students, help them to achieve great things, and prepare them for a great future.

Yours in Education,

Erica L. Stewart. Ed.D.

Principal