

Superintendent's Report
Orange Board of Education
January 10, 2012



The following is a report of the Superintendent of Schools for the January 10, 2012 Board of Education meeting:

OBOE- Mail Blast

The Blast is a culmination of activities and events that have occurred over that week as well as announcements of upcoming events. There are so many incredible achievements and activities occurring in the Orange Public Schools that is imperative that we start sharing and spreading the good news. We want to ensure that you have weekly access to this incredible resource. Please make certain that you are a part of the district e-mail distribution list so that you receive the weekly update. You really don't want to miss a single issue.

MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE

- The Mathematics and Science Department continues to administer, collect and analyze weekly student data. This effort has provided teachers and administrators with valuable insights regarding areas of strengths and weaknesses in student performance. The department has now begun to produce comparable student performance data and is using it to compare school proficiency levels across the district.
- The Mathematics and Science Department has entered a partnership with NJIT's Center for Pre-College Programs Department to submit a grant proposal to the National Science Foundation. The proposal, once funded, will focus on increasing our knowledge of how students are instructed and how they learn mathematics with a particular focus on Algebra. This program will allow NJIT staff to work with our students on various projects to increase their interest and academic achievement in mathematics. This working relationship will also contribute to the professional development of our teachers in STEM education.

SPECIAL SERVICES

- The Department of Special Services has begun conversations with America's Job Corps. Job Corps is a **free** education and training program that helps young people learn a career, earn a high school diploma or GED, and find and keep a good job. For eligible young people at least 16 years of age that qualify as low income, Job Corps provides the all-around skills needed to succeed in a career and in life.

HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT

The following reports and/or issues were addressed in the Operations/Human Resources Department during the month of December:

- Prepared district website and star ledger ads for vacant positions.
- Conducted an employee file audit to review highly qualified documents. Prepared memorandums to teachers whose personnel file did not contain updated highly qualified documents.
- Met with all prospective certificated and non-certificated candidates to negotiate salary and review district benefits and employment paperwork.
- Met with teachers who scheduled appointments to review their highly qualified documents and status.
- Met with teachers to review tuition reimbursement requests.
- Met with principals and supervisors to log in first cycle non-tenured staff observations.

BUSINESS DEPARTMENT

Facilities:

Facility Committee Meeting was held on January 9, 2012 at 2:30 pm at the Board of Education Administration Building, 451 Lincoln Avenue Orange.

Discussions and updates were presented on the following items:

- The district attended a meeting with New Jersey School Development Authority (NJSDA) on Monday, January 9, 2012 to review and access the district's list of facility construction projects. NJSDA officials notified the district that Cleveland School and Orange High School are classified as questionable facilities and that a 3 day detailed walkthrough will be conducted at each building in February 2012, (date and time TBD).
- Demolition of 149 Oakwood Avenue property: bids have been received for board approval on the January board agenda.
- Renovation of Orange Preparatory Academy (OPA) roof parapets: only two quotes were received, the district architect recommended that he will prepare an RFP/Bid to be advertized because he was not comfortable with current quotes amounts.
- Renovation of Orange High School (OHS) HVAC system (98% completion, additional funds are being sort from NJSDA to finalize the project)
- Renovation of OPA Gym lights: the project has been approved but additional construction documents are being requested by NJSDA before funds could be released to start this project.

Other Projects:

1. The business office is coordinating the installation of a Science Lab at the Orange Alternative School.
2. The business office is coordinating the purchase of a district-wide additional state aid grant award instructional technology equipments and supplies. The district is utilizing the additional state aid to purchase instructional equipments like; Interactive White Boards, Smart Labs, Laptops and Carts, Imacs, Read 180, NJASK Prep Materials, Outdoor Science Classroom Kindle Fire, Everyday Math Deluxe Esuite, Smart Slates, Scanners, Dell PCs for Classrooms and Teacher Work Stations, Skype & Broadcasting Equipments, Robotics Team initiatives, Dance Conservatory Program, Computer Graphics, Staff Tech Trainings, New Curriculum Initiatives, Facility Renovations and Additional Personnel, etc.

Finance:

The business office is currently coordinating the preparation of the district's 2012-13 school year budget.

Upcoming Events

District

- January 16, 2012 – District Closed in honor of Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday
- January 26, 2012 - District Professional Development and a 12:30 p.m. dismissal for students only
- January 27, 2012 - Professional Development Day full day school closed for students
- January 30, 2012 – NJPAC will be holding auditions for the Young Artist Institute at OPA
- February 4, 2012 - District Wide Spelling Bee of Champions – Saturday, February 4, 2012 held at OPA auditorium at 1:00 p.m.
- February 5, 2012 – Emerging Artist held at Kean University at 1:00 p.m.
- February 8, 2012 - Oakwood Art Show held at the BOE

Orange High School

- January 13, 2012 – Orange High School Dance Concert held at OPA auditorium

Heywood Avenue School

- January 19, 2012, Heywood Avenue and Park Avenue School will have there Dance Concert at OPA auditorium
- January 19, 2012 - In remembrance of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s contribution to society community service will be with students across Orange: Service Learning Project.

Lincoln Avenue School

- February 8, 2012 – Lincoln Avenue School is hosting a Celebrity Read Program, sponsored by United Way of Essex and West Hudson, which will take place at Lincoln Avenue School in Orange, New Jersey between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.
- This Celebrity Read Program is an important program in the 10th Congressional District of New Jersey. We are asking that you come into our school and read a passage to students about

an important historical event involving people of color. The program then asks the participant to share a few of their life experiences with the class.

Forest Street School

- January 13, 2012 - Shadow day 8:30-12:00
- January 20, 2012 - Career day
- January 23, 2012 - SMT meeting 3:00-5:00
- January 26, 2012 - Professional Development - 12:30 dismissal for students
- January 26, 2012 - Professional Development 1:00-4:30
- January 26, 2012 - End of 2nd marking period (45 days)
- January 26, 2012 - Assembly 4th gr. presents 10:00 a.m.
- January 27, 2012 - Professional Day no school for students
- January 30, 2012 - 3rd marking period begins

Park Avenue School

- January 18, 2012 - Liberty Science Center Community Evening 4:45-8:00pm
- January 19, 2012 - Dance Concert @ OPA 7:00pm

OPA

- January 26, 2012 – OPA having there Dance Concert