

Orange Township Public Schools
City of Orange Township, New Jersey

WHERE STUDENT SUCCESS IS
APPARENT

Parent Academy

2014-2015
YEARBOOK



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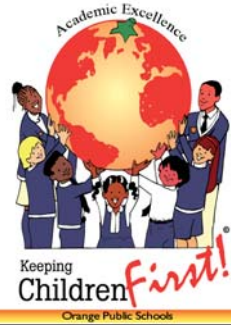
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ORANGE TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS

ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

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Ronald C. Lee
Superintendent of Schools

Dear Parent Academy Members,

It is with great pleasure that the Orange Township Public School District acknowledges the inaugural Parent Academy class of 2014-2015. This class is congratulated for fulfilling one of the district's goals in developing a "multi-faceted parent engagement program" that will increase training opportunities, parent involvement, student support and advocacy. Participants are enhancing, not only their parental and leadership skills, but their role as ambassadors for family and community involvement across the District.

Under the Parent Academy, the District has provided various training opportunities, including an overview of the *Partnership for Assessment for Readiness for College and Careers* (PARCC), English Language Arts and Mathematics workshops, and a forum for parents to participate in the development of the District's *Strategic Plan 2014-2021*. Additionally, we engaged the organization *Every Person Influences Children* (EPIC) to provide training to members to assist them with helping their children succeed. Such specialized training has increased their knowledge, confidence, and success as leaders in the District.

We are pleased that so many of our parents have attended the workshops and meetings conducted during the year, to which they received credit points for attendance at District functions. We are proud to acknowledge those who have earned enough credits to attain their **Parent Academy Diploma**. As graduates, my charge to you is that you are now empowered to recruit other parents to become involved in the District and to become members of the Parent Academy.

Through your partnership with the District and your commitment as dedicated parents of the Parent Academy, I am confident that we will continue to improve the Orange Public Schools in preparing our students for the competitive global community of the 21st Century. "Together We Can Make a Change."

Sincerely,

Ronald C. Lee
Superintendent of Schools

A Message from the President

As the 1st President of the newly formed District Parent Executive Committee, I want to thank Superintendent Lee and his cabinet for inviting parents to the table as partners in the educational outcome of our children. It is with pleasure that I recognize all of the parents that represented their child's school in the inaugural class of the Parent Academy. I also congratulate the entire team of elected Executive Committee members for being ambassadors to the program.

Despite the substantial amount of time District staff spends with our children, no one knows our students better than we do. This is why it is important to have all stakeholders involved in the decision making process to better ensure complete success for the student.

The correlation of parental involvement and student achievement is unquestionable. The Parent Academy is one of the vehicles developed to help parents to be fully informed about the educational process and allow us to advocate properly for our children. The old adage is true: "It takes a village to raise a child." When the family, school and community come together to raise the child, we develop a well-rounded, productive member of society that can better manage their future and ours.

With an ongoing district and parent partnership, children can be provided a safe place where productive learning and open dialogue between all stakeholders can occur. I am excited about what is happening in our schools and the future of the City of Orange Township, because of our commitment to *Keeping Children First*.

Dwight Holmes

Vision

The mission of the Orange Public School District Parent Academy is to support overall student achievement by providing families with learning opportunities and resources that will enable them to become more involved in their children's educational success.

Goals

- Increase parental participation in student academics
- Educate parents on new standards and requirements
- Strengthen the home school connection

Focus Areas

Student Achievement:

Workshops that promote student academic achievement and show parents how to navigate the educational system

Parent & Advocacy:

Workshops that outline methods that will effectively enhance parenting and leadership skills

Personal and Individual Growth:

Workshops that will support personal and professional growth of parents and care givers

The Orange Public School District is dedicated to the academic success of all students and is committed to providing informative workshops and resources that will equip families with the tools necessary to enable children to reach their full potential. From Pre-K through grade 12, parental involvement is a key component to the academic success of students and the Orange schools welcome parents and families as partners in a child's educational journey.

To participate in the Parent Academy, parents may attend any of the offered workshops and receive assigned credits for participation. After acquiring 10 credits, participants will receive a PA Certificate of Achievement. Register today for the Parent Academy (PA) and obtain your PA ID Card. Registration is free and open to all parents and family members of Orange Public School students.

Executive Committee



Front (L-R): A. Montgomery, 1st Vice-President; N. Cross, Corresponding Secretary; and A. Spong, Secretary
Back (L-R): D. Holmes, President; D. McKnight, Treasurer; and D. Armstrong, 2nd Vice-President

Steering Committee



Front (L-R): Rachel Bland, Community Coordinator (Oakwood); A. Montgomery; N. Cross; and A. Spong
Middle (L-R): Stephanie Desanges, Family Liaison; J. Francis, Parent
Back (L-R): D. Holmes; Barry Devone, Community Coordinator (RPCS); D. McKnight; and D. Armstrong

Graduates

DAVID ARMSTRONG

JAYSON BAPTICHON

NICOLA CROSS

OLIVIENNE EVRA

JOYCELYN FRANCIS

MARJORIE GILBERT

NICKESHA GLAUDIN

DWIGHT HOLMES

DAVID MCKNIGHT

AMBER MONTGOMERY

LISA PERKINS

Y. ABIGAIL RIZZO

AMANDA SAPONG

TALESHA WARD

Inaugural Members



David Armstrong
Lincoln Avenue School
Recruitment Co-Chairperson



Jayson Baptichon
Oakwood Avenue Community School



Alana Baskerville
Rosa Parks Community School



Lisa Bryant
Oakwood Avenue Community School



Christopher Carson
Heywood Avenue School



Ehimar Chanza
Rosa Parks Community School



Nichola Cross
Orange Early Childhood Center
Recruitment Co-Chairperson



Hermencia D'Haiti Ulysse
Cleveland Street School



Maria Espinal
Heywood Avenue School



Olivienne Evra
Rosa Parks Community School



Sharon Ferguson
Cleveland Street School



Joycelyn Francis
Rosa Parks Community School



Marjorie Gilbert
Lincoln Avenue School
Curriculum Chairperson



Nickeshia Gladuin
Orange Early Childhood Center



Antoinette Hall
Park Avenue School



Andrea Harmon
Oakwood Avenue Community School



Joann Harmon
Oakwood Avenue Community School



Dwight Holmes
Rosa Parks Community School
Cultural Affairs/Recreation Chairperson



Alicia Johnson
Park Avenue School
Scholars Academy



Clementina Julien
Lincoln Avenue School



Belva May
Forest Street School



David McKnight
Lincoln Avenue School
School Safety Chairperson



Amber Montgomery
Orange High School
Fundraising Chairperson



Dana Moore
Scholars Academy



Nicole Nickels
Cleveland Street School



Nerine Plummer
Heywood Avenue School



Y. Abigail Rizo
Forest Street School



Christina Rodriguez
Orange High School



Amanda Sapong
Forest Street School
Civic Chairperson



Teleisha Ward
Park Avenue School



Kendra Wells
Orange Preparatory Academy
Orange High School

Not Pictured

Teheerah Brown
Orange Preparatory Academy

Naimah Golden
Orange High School

Grace Martin
Forest Street School

Sierra Dixon
Oakwood Avenue Community School

Maria Joauq
Forest Street School

Kelly Smith
Oakwood Avenue Community School

Charmaine Williams
Forest Street School

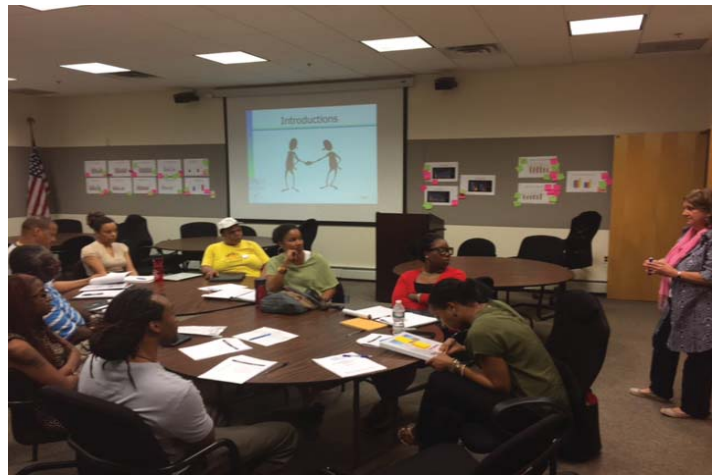
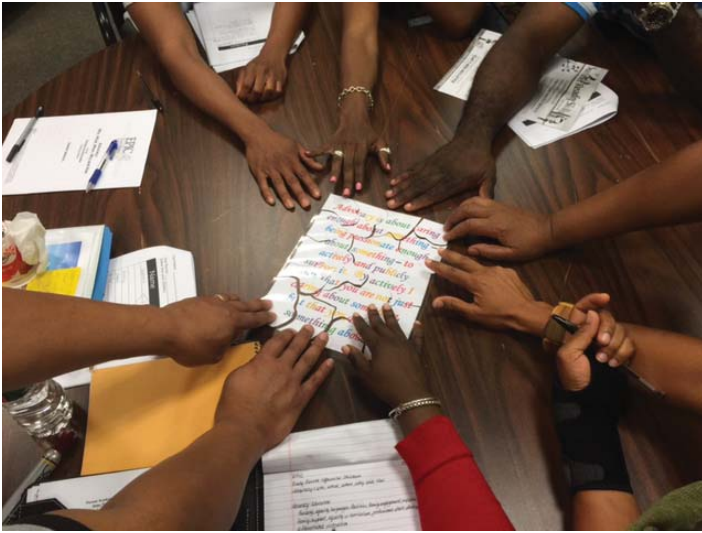
Executive Committee Meeting



S'Mores Meeting



Parent Workshops



Inaugural Meeting



Strategic Planning



Award Recipients

Pictured right, Mr. David Armstrong, and below, Ms. Marjorie Gilbert, who became the recipients of a new Kindle device. Awarded by Ms. Kathy Carter, Director of English Language Arts, as a door prize for attending her department's workshops.



Academic Excellence



Keeping
Children *First!*

Orange Public Schools