



OBO *E-Mail* Blast

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Million Father March Headlines the First Day of School

On Monday, September 10, 2012, the first day of school for the Orange Public School District, over 600 fathers walked their children to school as part of the Black Star Project's "Million Father March". Fathers showed their commitment to their children's education by accompanying them. At the Park Avenue Elementary School, fathers were greeted by Superintendent of Schools, Mr. Ronald C. Lee, the Mayor of Orange, the Honorable Dwayne D. Warren, Orange Councilmember, the Honorable Elroy Corbitt, Park Avenue's Principal, Dr. Myron Hackett, and prominent community members including the men's ministry from the Ebenezer Baptist Church, headed by Rev. H. William Rutherford and neighboring East Orange Councilman, the Honorable Ted R. Green.

The Orange Public School District supported the Black Star Project's "Million Father March" to encourage parental involvement, in particular the participation of fathers. Guided by national research findings that fathers' involvement has a positive impact on their children's success in school, the district used the "Million Father March" to launch an aggressive campaign to get more fathers engaged in their child's educational life.

Superintendent of Schools, Mr. Ronald C. Lee, was pleased with the turnout of fathers along with mothers who were there to support their children. He will further the cause to engage fathers, stating, "This year we are hosting programs to bring our fathers into our schools, such as a Father's Reading Club, and a Sunday Football Fellowship. We are also participating in President Barack Obama's National Responsible Fatherhood Clearinghouse (NRFC), to offer valuable resources for men and their families, and bring to the district the nationally acclaimed dress-for-success program 'Tied to Greatness'. Further, we are planning educational theatre performances and working closely with the City of Orange Department of Recreation to present informative workshops for parents."

For the "Million Father March", the district gave out T-shirts to the first 50 fathers of children entering pre-K through grade five that arrived at each elementary school building and the Orange Early Childhood Center with their children. Fathers were greeted at the school sites as follows:

- Cleveland Street School - United Methodist Church
- Rosa Parks Central Community School - Assistant to the Mayor
- Forest Street - School staff
- Heywood Avenue - Director, Male Student Support Program, Reggie Miller and Community Advocate, Roger Hinton
- Lincoln Avenue - OHS Alumni/Staff
- Oakwood Avenue - Union Baptist Church
- Park Avenue - Ebenezer Baptist Church
- Orange Early Childhood Center - Elijah Brown and "ManUp" performers



Pictured: Fathers arrive at Park Avenue School with their children for the first day of school.



Anti-bullying and Breast Cancer Awareness Messages Delivered by Special Guests

Orange High School and Orange Preparatory Academy students had special visitors on the second day of school. L.A. Lakers player Matt Barnes, along with his fiancée Gloria Govan and her sister Laura Govan who are cast members from the reality television series, "Basketball Wives LA". The celebrity guests delivered messages about bullying and cancer awareness to interested students. A young magician from Orange by the name of Julian accompanied the schools' special guests entertaining the students while telling them how he overcame being bullied with his interest in magic.

Both Gloria and Laura Govan spoke candidly about issues of bullying, in particular cyber bullying, and stressed perseverance and finding an outlet to deal with harassment. It was Laura Govan who told an inspirational story of turning to sports in school, earning a scholarship to college and going on to receive a Masters Degree.



Pictured: Scenes from OHS including Julian performing magic trick; Gloria Govan, Matt Barnes and Laura Govan

Gloria Govan also spoke about cancer awareness and commended Orange's annual "Pink Out" football game, which will be held on October 5, 2012, and OHS's fundraising efforts for cancer awareness month. Matt Barnes spoke of his charity, "Athletes vs. Cancer", that he started in memory of his mother, Ann Barnes, who passed away in 2007, twenty-six days after being diagnosed with the disease. His story was followed by local cancer charity, the Angel Foundation (whose chair is a graduate of Orange High School). Her message was to get more people involved in cancer awareness and to educate and motivate people to get regular cancer screenings.

Students were focused on the messages relayed and several high school students came to the microphone to tell their experiences with bullying. Orange Preparatory Academy students received direct advice from the celebrity visitors after telling them of their dreams and aspirations, at the close of the program. One student received a backpack from Laura Govan when she understood that he didn't have one to carry to school and a budding young model received advice from Gloria Govan along with a necklace as motivation to stick with her dreams.

In addressing students, Superintendent of Schools, Ronald C. Lee, underscored the lessons about bullying and Orange's support of breast cancer awareness.

The Honorable Mayor Dwayne D. Warren, addressed students at Orange Preparatory Academy with words of encouragement. The Mayor was accompanied by Councilman, the Honorable Hassan Abdul-Rasheed. Both City officials were present to lend their support for the anti bullying and cancer awareness discussions.



Pictured: Matt Barnes taping Public Service Announcement; Students at Orange Preparatory Academy; The Honorable Mayor Warren, Superintendent Lee and the Honorable Councilman Abdul-Rasheed



The Orange Public School District Hosts Visiting Teachers from Korea

Through Bloomfield College's International Teaching Program, Orange Public Schools will host visiting math and science teachers from Korea.

A reception was held on September 13, 2012 for the visiting teachers to meet the district's administration and their "Cooperating Host Teacher" and principals at the Orange Board of Education office. The teachers/schools participating in this program are:

- Ms. Caroline Tragni – Math, OHS – Hosting Jeong Su Kim
- Mr. Robert Gronau – Science, OHS – Hosting Hyeyoung Lee
- Mr. Jose Valdez- Math, OPA – Hosting So Yeon Kim
- Ms. Pamela Davis – Science, Cleveland – Hosting Chan Woong Kim
- Mr. Adam DiLorenzo- Math, Park – Hosting Jinhyun Park

Also in attendance to introduce the program were Maria Rey-Seara, Assistant Vice President, Institute for Technology and Professional Studies, Nancy Hurtz-Soyka, Assistant Director of American Language Center & Curriculum Development and Joyce Ng, M.A., Educational Consultant Institute for Technology and Professional Studies.



Pictured: Visiting teachers, principals, host teachers and Bloomfield College representatives; Teachers and principals meet; Bloomfield College representatives.



The Orange High School Celebrates Founders Day with First Fall Convocation

On September 13, 2012, Orange High School held its first Fall Convocation to celebrate Founder's Day with history, thoughts and expectations of what it means to be a Tornado. The event was highlighted by a video documenting the opening of Orange High School in 1869 at what is now Orange City Hall. The school, under the direction of Co-Principals, Faith Alcantara and Kalisha Morgan, presented their theme for the year, "Great Promises, Great Potential, Great Possibilities" with student interpretations. There was a keynote address by alumnus, Mr. Reggie Miller, Director of the Male Student Support Program, and a tribute to other alumni currently working at Orange High School.

The program was officiated by Senior Class President, Uchenna Eze. Senior Micaelia Gibson led the flag salute and sang the school's alma mater. The OHS Mighty Marching Tornadoes played, accompanied by band dancers and OHS drama students performed a skit written by OHS senior, Sherley Dorcelian.



Pictured (above) OHS Band; OHS Dancers; Drama Students; (below) Mr. Reggie Miller; Ucheenna Eze



Scenes From the First Day of School



Superintendent of Schools, Mr. Ronald C. Lee, visited each school to welcome back students and staff.

Coming Attractions

- *Saturday, September 15 – 4th Annual Hassan C. Miller, Jr. Anti-Violence Basketball Classic, 2012 Monte Irvin Orange Park, from 1:00 – 7:00 p.m. (See flyer below)*
- *Thursday, September 20 – Students in grades 4 – 8 will take the History Bee Elimination Exam at all schools*
- *Wednesday, September 19 – Orange High School Art Opening at the Orange Board of Education Administration Building, 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.*
- *Monday, September 24 – Students in grades 1-8 will participate in the "Great American Spell Check"*
- *Monday, September 27 – Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Policy Training, 4:00 – 6:00 p.m., Board of Education Building*

Mayor Dwayne D. Warren, Esq.

MOVING ORANGE FORWARD

**COME TO THE
4TH ANNUAL HASSAN C. MILLER, JR.
ANTI-VIOLENCE BASKETBALL CLASSIC**



**Saturday, September 15, 2012
Monte Irvin Orange Park
From 1:00 PM – 7:00 PM
FOOD • GAMES • REFRESHMENTS**

The 4th Annual Hassan C. Miller, Jr. Anti-Violence Basketball classic will begin at 4:00 PM. There will be food, games, refreshments and back-to-school drug & alcohol awareness giveaways. (Giveaways are limited. First come, first serve basis)

For Information

Call Sandra Barrera at 973-266-4003



Honorable Dwayne D. Warren, Esq.
Mayor

Municipal Council

Honorable Hassan Abdul-Rasheed
West Ward Councilmember

Honorable Elroy A. Corbitt
Councilmember-At-Large

Honorable Tency A. Eason
North Ward Councilmember

Honorable April Gaunt-Butler
Councilmember-At-Large

Honorable Linda Jones-Bell
East Ward Councilmember

Honorable Edward B. Marable, Jr., Esq.
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