# Orange County Public Schools Annual Report 2019-20

# **Table of Contents**

Introduction	3
OCPS At-A-Glance	4
Where Your Dollar Goes	5
High Expectations for Student Learning	5
Super Scholars	5
Dual Enrollment	5
Advanced Placement	5
Arts Enrollment	5
OCPS Education Channel	5
Orange Technical College	5
National Recognitions	6
Athletics	6
Student Social and Emotional Well-Being	6
Social Workers	<i>6</i>
Clubs/Programs	6
Dedicated and High-Quality Team	6
Stellar Award Winners	
Recognitions	
Efficient Operations	7
Savings	
Recognitions	8
Building Update	
2019 2020	
Positive Climate and Safe Environment	g
Safety and Emergency Management	
World Heart Day 2019	c

Public Safety	9
Engaged and Invested Community	9
Foundation for OCPS	9
Leadership Orange	
Parent Academy	
Award	
150th Anniversary Celebration	10
Our School Board	10
Contact Us	10
EEO Statement	10

### Introduction

### Dear Orange County Residents:

The 2019-20 school year began like many before, with our students eagerly starting school in August. In September, together with Dr. Jenkins, we hosted the State of the Schools event, and we unveiled plans for the 150th Anniversary of Orange County Public Schools. In the fall, we asked the community to "Go Orange" with us on Dec. 11. Along with our students and employees, many of you celebrated our proud, historic 150-year milestone.

After months of review and input from various stakeholders, we entered the new year (and decade) with a newly adopted five-year strategic plan for our future – OCPS 2025 – and celebrated our stellar employees who make this district a leader among our peers nationwide.

Then COVID-19 struck, moving rapidly across the globe, taking lives, changing the way we live, work and learn, and causing massive unemployment. Unlike anything our world has witnessed in our lifetime, Americans had to cease much of life as we knew it. For everyone's safety, we closed our school doors in the spring and turned to distance learning to safely educate our students.

Even though we canceled or postponed many events through this pandemic, you helped us continue to feed our children, and raise money for scholarships and needed programs for when we returned to in-school instruction. While this time has not been easy, together we have endured, showing unity, strength and resilience in moving forward as best we could under our new normal.

The pages that follow showcase a tiny fraction of what sets OCPS apart from districts across this state and nation. We have much to be proud of and — with your support and with our core values of equity, inclusion, respect, collaboration, integrity and innovation guiding the way — we will continue to create enriching and diverse pathways to lead our students to success for the next 150 years.

Sincerely, Teresa Jacobs School Board Chair

To the Orange County Community:

For 150 years, Orange County Public Schools has been entrusted to steer the educational pathways of our community's children. This year we were fortunate to teach a diverse student population of more than 212,000, which included the entire spectrum of abilities and economic status.

Our 25,000 employees — from bus drivers to custodians, teachers to paraprofessionals, support staff to administrators — are all committed to the success of the students we serve. Such commitment was particularly evident when we had to pivot to meet the challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic.

To ensure learning continued when our schools closed, our teachers and schools engaged with technology to connect with students and teach remotely for the last nine weeks of school. Our administrators created paper and online resources to aid parents and students with distance learning. To address student nutrition needs, our teams also packaged healthy meals and transformed our school parking loops into distribution centers through the summer.

I am extremely proud of the work our OCPS team has performed this year, and I am happy to share with you some of our accomplishments.

Sincerely,

Barbara M. Jenkins, Ed.D. Superintendent

### OCPS At-A-Glance

Vision: To ensure every student has a promising and successful future.

Mision: With the support of families and the community, we create enriching and diverse pathways to lead our students to success.

- 212,401 students from 199 countries who speak 164 languages and dialects.
- 8th-largest public school district in the United States; 4th-largest public school district in Florida
- 25,756 employees, among the largest employers in Central Florida.
- 847 buses that transport 70,000 students per day, averaging 18.5 million miles per year.
- 2018-19 Graduation Rate: 95.9% at traditional OCPS high schools; 88.4% at all OCPS high schools.
- 142,816 digital devices distributed through LaunchED 1:1 digital learning program.
- We serve nearly 34 million meals per year or about 215,000 meals per day. While schools were closed for the fourth quarter of the 2019-2020 year, about 85,000 meals were distributed per day.
- 125 Elementary Schools; 38 Middle Schools; 8 K-8 Schools; 20 High Schools; 8 Exceptional Schools
- OCPS has opened 53 new schools since 2003. Another 124 schools have been renovated or replaced. An additional 21 are scheduled to be completed in the next three years.

### Where Your Dollar Goes

78¢: Teaching, transporting, supervising and counseling students 7¢: Library materials, staff training and curriculum development

10¢: Acquiring, operating and maintaining school facilities

5¢: Central and fiscal services, general administration and district technology

# High Expectations for Student Learning

Orange County Public Schools is committed to providing all students the education and skills necessary to be successful and prepared for college and career. The 2019-20 school year saw significant academic achievements, including:

### **Super Scholars**

126 graduating seniors from our 20 traditional high schools were accepted into U.S. News and World Report's top-20-ranked universities and liberal arts colleges, and U.S. service academies.

### Dual Enrollment

205 graduating seniors earned their associate degree from Valencia College, along with their diploma. This is a 200% increase from the previous year.

### Advanced Placement

145 students earned the Advanced Placement (AP) Capstone Diploma and 37 students earned the AP Seminar and Research Certificate during the 2019-20 school year. More than 10,200 students took at least one AP test and scored 3, 4 or 5.

### Arts Enrollment

OCPS had the highest percentage of students participating in Visual and Performing Arts among the five largest school districts in the state of Florida.

OCPS: 66% State: 56.9%

### **OCPS Education Channel**

OCPS partnered with WUCF TV to launch the OCPS Education channel played on Channel 24.5.

### Orange Technical College

- 50,000 students
- 5 technical college campuses, 20 high schools, 37 middle schools
- 55 programs
- 1,402 graduates
- 8,783 industry certificates earned by secondary students

### National Recognitions

- 15 seniors from eight high schools were chosen as winners in the 2020 National Merit Scholarship Program. Thirteen others were semifinalists and also won scholarship awards.
- Magnet Schools of America recognized 10 OCPS magnet programs for demonstrating a high commitment to academic standards, curriculum innovation, diversity efforts, specialized teaching staff, and parent and community involvement.
- OCPS has once again been recognized as one of the nation's Best Communities for Music Education by the National Association of Music Merchants Foundation. The award program highlights districts that demonstrate outstanding achievement in efforts to provide music access and education to all students.

#### **Athletics**

Both Ocoee and Dr. Phillips high schools' competitive cheerleading teams won state championships in the 2019-20 school year.

# Student Social and Emotional Well-Being

We are committed to promoting the educational success and mental health development of our students.

### Social Workers

School-based mental-health social workers were placed at all 20 traditional high schools. They help create safe, supportive environments for all students, including those who are bullied and those with mental-health issues.

### Clubs/Programs

- Find Your Voice: A new initiative at five schools that empowered over 100 young women to find their voice and become impactful everyday leaders
- Gay-Straight Alliance: 20 high and 38 middle schools
- Holocaust Center Upstanders: Eight middle schools
- Restorative Practice Circles: All middle and high schools
- SAFE: Five middle and four high schools

# Dedicated and High-Quality Team

OCPS is proud of the many accomplishments of all our staff who, in various capacities, help lead our students to success each day.

### Stellar Award Winners

- Teacher of the Year: Rob Paschall (State Finalist), West Creek Elementary
- Support Person of the Year: Maria Seijo, Innovation Office
- Principal of the Year: James Leslie, Lake Weston Elementary
- Assistant Principal of the Year: Fred Ray, Carver Middle

### Recognitions

- Barbara Walters-Phillips, a math and science coach at Rosemont Elementary, was awarded the Katherine Wright Trophy from the National Aeronautic Association.
- Edgewater High Principal, Mark Shanoff, Ed.D., was named the 2019 National Principal of the Year for Florida by the National Association of Secondary School Principals.
- Visual Arts Resource Teacher Christy Garton was named the 2019
   Supervisor/Administrator of the Year by the Florida Art Education Association.
- Social Worker Jennifer Frye was selected by the Florida Association of School Social Workers as the School Social Worker of the Year.
- Stephanie Brooks, reading coach at Riverside Elementary, was named 2019- 2020 Florida Literacy Elementary Coach of the Year.
- The Florida School Nutrition Association awarded its Outstanding Leadership Award to Tony Jenkins, Food and Nutrition Services senior training manager.
- Keene's Crossing Elementary was the first OCPS elementary school to receive the Florida Power Library Award from the Florida Association of Media Supervisors.

# **Efficient Operations**

OCPS has an expectation that every dollar saved through operational efficiencies and cost reductions can be reinvested into the classroom and student achievement.

### Savings

- Through rigorous contract negotiations and competitive sourcing strategies, the Procurement Services team secured more than \$32 million in savings for the district during the 2020 fiscal year.
- Utility billing monitoring and audits have saved or returned \$6.5 million to the district.
- OCPS earned \$3.1 million in 2020 in energy rebate programs from energy-saving elements incorporated into each school construction project.
- The total e-payables rebate earned in fiscal year 2020 was \$2.3 million, an increase of nearly 6% from the prior year due to an increase in the percentage of vendor payments made by electronic payment methods.
- Portable Operations recycled 13.2 tons of copper, aluminum and steel component materials with a value of more than \$21,000.

### Recognitions

- OCPS received the Key Performance in Financial Management Achievement Award from the Council of the Great City Schools. The award identified 50 OCPS key performance indicators that ranked in the top quartile of the Council's member districts.
- OCPS received a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting by the Government Finance Officers Association and the Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting by the Association of School Business Officials.
- The Human Resources department received the 2019 Governor's Sterling Sustained Excellence Award from the Florida Sterling Council for retaining its role-model status since its 2015 recognition.
- Procurement Services earned the 2019 Achievement of Excellence in Procurement Award from the National Procurement Institute.

### **Building Update**

During this school year, the capital renewal program began construction on 18 projects with a value of \$63 million, and completed 23 projects at a cost of \$68 million. The value of all capital renewal projects under construction is \$91 million with additional projects in development valued at \$120 million. The program has completed 186 projects through April 2020 at a cost of approximately \$164 million. Below are the new, replaced and renovated schools that opened in 2019 or 2020.

### 2019

- Castleview Elementary School (new)
- Corner Lake Middle School (renovation)
- Deerwood Elementary School (replacement)
- Horizon West Middle School (new)
- Lake Gem Elementary School (renovation)
- Lake George Elementary School (renovation)
- Pershing School (replacement)
- Sunrise Elementary School (renovation)
- Water Spring Elementary School (new)

### 2020

- Acceleration West (renovation)
- Boone High School Auditorium/Gym/Cafeteria (replacement/renovation)
- Magnolia School (replacement)
- Pinar Elementary School (replacement)
- Rolling Hills Elementary School (replacement)
- Southwest Middle School (renovation)
- Summerlake Elementary School (new)
- Sunshine Elementary School (new)
- Vista Pointe Elementary School (new)

• Winegard Elementary School (replacement)

### Positive Climate and Safe Environment

The district is constantly evaluating and finding ways to improve school safety. OCPS is focused on providing a safe learning and working environment for its students, employees and visitors.

### Safety and Emergency Management

Safety and Emergency Management's Office of Safety developed and launched a new online training course for school administrators—Safety First, Safety Always—to provide school leaders guidance on reducing safety risks within their facilities.

### World Heart Day 2019

More than 36,500 OCPS students received hands-only CPR and AED training at all 20 traditional high schools and Orange Technical College, thanks to partnerships with the Orlando Fire Department, Orange County Fire Rescue and the American Heart Association.

### Public Safety

OCPS hosted a two-day multiagency public-safety drill – Resilient Orange – to foster staff training, teamwork, and information sharing in a plausible active-assailant response scenario.

# **Engaged and Invested Community**

Our community members provide invaluable skills and resources that support our students and teachers. Below are just a few highlights from the 2019-20 school year.

### Foundation for OCPS

The Foundation for Orange County Public Schools invests in our children today to strengthen our community tomorrow. In 2019-20, The Foundation raised or managed \$3.99 million to build educational equity. In addition, invested funds held by the Foundation to benefit OCPS students, teachers and programs grew to more than \$3.6 million.

- 56,772 ADDitions volunteers
- 563,300 volunteer hours logged (valued at \$13.5 million)
- 2,603 Partners in Education
- 148 Golden Schools
- 27 Silver Schools

### Leadership Orange

In 2019-20, 30 community members completed Class X of Leadership Orange, which provides a behind-the- scenes look at what it takes to run a large urban school district. More than 320 people have graduated from the program.

### Parent Academy

During the 2019-2020 school year, at three Parent Academy seminars, 34 sessions were offered for approximately 717 parents/caregivers. The Youth Academy served 726 students between the ages of 4-18. In five Virtual Parent Academy seminars, family engagement opportunities were provided in four languages (English, Spanish, Haitian Creole and Portuguese) to 1,626 participants.

### **Award**

Meadow Woods Elementary School received the Florida Department of Education's 2019-2020 Family and Community Involvement Award (Region III, Elementary) for its Parent and Family Resource Center. This annual award highlights exemplary school programs and practices which meaningfully engage families and the community to enhance student success.

### 150th Anniversary Celebration

The community helped OCPS recognize its 150th Anniversary on Dec. 11, 2019 by lighting up orange.

### **Our School Board**

Teresa Jacobs, Chair
Angie Gallo, District 1
Johanna López, District 2
Linda Kobert, District 3
Pam Gould, Vice Chair, District 4
Kathleen "Kat" Gordon, District 5
Karen Castor Dentel, District 6
Melissa Byrd, District 7
Barbara M. Jenkins, Superintendent

### Contact Us

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### **FFO Statement**

The School Board of Orange County, Florida, does not discriminate in admission or access to, or treatment or employment in its programs and activities, on the basis of race, color, religion,

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