2020-21 ANNUAL REPORT

Orange County Public Schools
OUR PROMISE
YOUR SUCCESS
SUPPORT THEIR SUCCESS
# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Our School Board</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Letter from the School Board Chair and Superintendent</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mission, Vision, Values &amp; Objectives</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At a Glance</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High Expectations for Student Learning</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Social and Emotional Well-being</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dedicated and High-Quality Team</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Efficient Operations</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Positive Climate and Safe Environment</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engaged and Invested Community</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
OUR SCHOOL BOARD

Teresa Jacobs
Chair

Angie Gallo
District 1

Johanna López
District 2

Linda Kobert
District 3

Pam Gould
Vice Chair | District 4

Vicki-Elaine Felder
District 5

Karen Castor Dentel
District 6

Melissa Byrd
District 7

Barbara M. Jenkins
Superintendent
Dear Community Members:

Creativity. Resilience. Endurance. These words truly epitomized the 2020-21 school year for Orange County Public Schools.

As our world, nation, state and county managed COVID-19 restrictions and closures, our OCPS teams remained focused and continued the work to provide enriching and diverse pathways to lead our students to success.

When the school year began in August, OCPS offered three options (Face to Face, LaunchED@ Home and Orange County Virtual School) for 206,000 students to safely engage in learning.

Examples of adaptations included teachers, paraprofessionals, administrators and students embracing new technologies and digital devices; custodians and temporary workers cleaning schools and facilities with new disinfectants and equipment; drivers passing out masks and cleaning buses after each school run; and Food and Nutrition Services workers distributing millions of curbside meals. Community members also stepped forward to provide their expert health and safety guidance for our district, in addition to businesses and organizations donating personal protective supplies, meals and holiday gifts to students and staff.

With safe planning, abbreviated sports seasons and extracurricular activities resumed; parents and families transported LaunchED@Home and OCVS students to campuses for after-school activities and mandatory tests; and the Class of 2021 was able to celebrate with alternative prom events and graduations ceremonies.

Together, we have endured social distancing in classrooms and at events; temperature checks; face coverings; hand sanitizer stations; separation by plastic partitions; and an abundance of virtual meetings – all of which have become commonplace. Through this all, our exceptional students and team members persevered.

As you review a few of our district’s accomplishments in this report, know that we are grateful for your constant innovative support to help us fulfill our vision to ensure each of our students has a promising and successful future.

Sincerely,

Teresa Jacobs
School Board Chair

Barbara M. Jenkins, Ed.D.
Superintendent
VISION

To ensure every student has a promising and successful future

MISSION

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

Equity
Integrity
Inclusion
Collaboration
Respect
Innovation

OBJECTIVES

High expectations for student learning
Student social and emotional well-being
Dedicated and high-quality team
Positive climate and safe environment
Efficient operations
Engaged and invested community
AT A GLANCE
206,058 STUDENTS  
197 COUNTRIES  
172 LANGUAGES AND DIALECTS

2019-20 GRADUATION RATE

97.9% at traditional OCPS high schools

90.4% at all OCPS high schools

9TH largest public school district in the United States

4TH largest public school district in Florida

OUR SCHOOLS 2020-21

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of School</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Elementary Schools</td>
<td>127</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle Schools</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K-8 Schools</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High Schools</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exceptional Schools</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Number of Schools</strong></td>
<td><strong>202</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
OUR DISTRICT

- 25,125 employees, among the largest employers in Central Florida
- 188,667 digital devices distributed through LaunchED 1:1 digital learning program
- More than 39 million meals served per year or about 209,000 meals per day

TRANSPORTATION

Approximately 47% of the student riders from the previous year returned to face-to-face instruction. 690 buses transported more than 33,000 students per day, traveling over 13.5 million miles to maintain social distance.
OCPS has opened 56 new schools since 2003. Another 130 schools have been renovated or replaced. An additional 14 new schools are scheduled to be completed in the next five years.

WHERE YOUR DOLLAR GOES

- **78¢** Teaching, transporting, supervising and counseling students
- **7¢** Library materials, staff training and curriculum development
- **11¢** Acquiring, operating and maintaining school facilities
- **4¢** Central and fiscal services, general administration and district technology
HIGH EXPECTATIONS FOR STUDENT LEARNING
OCPS is committed to providing all students the education and skills necessary to be successful and prepared for college and career. During the 2020-21 school year, we provided our students three learning options and continued to see significant academic achievements, including:

**SUPER SCHOLARS**

127 graduating seniors from our 20 traditional high schools were accepted to *U.S. News and World Report*’s top-20 ranked universities and colleges, and U.S. service academies.

**DUAL ENROLLMENT**

256 graduating seniors earned their associate degree from Valencia College, along with their diploma. This is a nearly 25 percent increase from the previous year.

**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.

**ORANGE TECHNICAL COLLEGE**

53,861 students
5 technical college campuses, 20 high schools, 37 middle schools
75 programs
1,696 graduates
7,797 industry certificates earned by secondary students
MAGNET PROGRAMS

Magnet Schools of America recognized seven OCPS magnet programs with Merit Awards for demonstrating a high commitment to academic standards; curriculum innovation; diversity efforts; specialized teaching staff; and parent and community involvement.

2020 Schools of Excellence
- Hunter’s Creek Elementary School: Two-Way Dual Language
- Arbor Ridge K-8: 6-8 Option
- Boone High School: Criminal Justice, Law and Finance

2020 Schools of Distinction
- Tildenville Elementary School: Two-Way Dual Language
- Jackson Middle School: Middle Years International Baccalaureate
- Dr. Phillips High School: Center for International Studies
- Dr. Phillips High School: Visual and Performing Arts

NATIONAL RECOGNITIONS

- **Apopka High** was recognized as a Project Lead the Way Distinguished School for providing broad access to transformative learning opportunities for students through PLTW Biomedical Science and Engineering. It was one of 143 high schools across the nation to receive this honor.
- **26 seniors from 11 high schools** were chosen as winners in the 2021 National Merit Scholars. **Seven** others were semifinalists and also won scholarship awards.
- Once again, OCPS was 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.
- OCPS was selected by the International Society for Technology in Education as an ISTE Distinguished District. The award recognizes districts that:
  - Demonstrate effectiveness and innovation in the use of educational technology;
  - Ensure equitable, accessible and appropriate learning opportunities for all students aimed at improving outcomes and increasing engagement; and
  - Exhibit a progressive mindset when it comes to challenges in education and embraces new ideas and acts on them.
ATHLETICS

FHSAA State Champions

- Academic Team Champion - Girls Bowling, East River High School
- Boys Basketball - Dr. Phillips High School
- Competitive Cheerleading (Medium Division) - Winter Park High School
- Swimming
  - Boys 1 Meter Diving - Olympia High School
  - Girls 1 Meter Diving - Boone High School
  - Girls 200 Yard Freestyle Relay - Winter Park High School
- Weightlifting - Girls (139 lb) - Dr. Phillips High School
- Wrestling
  - Boys (145 lb) - Winter Park High School
  - Boys (285 lb) - Dr. Phillips High School
  - Girls (Team) - Dr. Phillips High School
STUDENT SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING
OCPS is committed to promoting the educational success and mental health development of our students.

**CLUBS**

- The Gay-Straight Alliance clubs in all high schools and 36 middle schools recognized the “Random Acts of Kindness Week” through a variety of activities designed to build a welcoming school community.
- SAFE Ambassador clubs are led by middle and high school students who choose to serve as change agents on their school campuses by consciously promoting a safe and drug-free environment. Club members actively participate in prevention activities such as Red Ribbon Week; National Alcohol and Drug Fact Week; Cookies for Cops; Bullying Prevention Awareness Month; Unity Day; and Start with Hello Week to engage their student body in providing awareness and education on living a drug- and bully-free life.

**RESOURCES**

- Formed the Cultural Responsiveness and Sensitivity Committee to identify strategies and resources to offer direct services to diverse student populations. In collaboration with the Minority Achievement Office, teams provide training on Unmasking Aggressions and Restorative Practice and Circles, and assist schools in looking at bias in student evaluations and microaggressions in school-related activities.
- Purchased “Response”, a suicide prevention program, and digital licenses of the Second Step Social Emotional Learning Program for all middle school SAFE coordinators.
- Created the “OCPS Supports” initiative to support students and families. It aimed to reduce gaps in services for families and route families to appropriate services based upon needs.
- Piloted the Spirit System, a communication system between school mental health designees and SEDNET mental health agencies, that supports schools in monitoring student referrals for outside mental health counseling. This project will be expanded for the 2021-22 school year.
- Provided the required five-hour Mental Health and Wellness Course for students in grades 6-12 via monthly sessions in October, November, January, February and March.

**TRUANCY**

A “Student Attendance Blitz 2020” occurred in November to locate more than 620 students. Thanks to the collaborative efforts of the Student Services Academics and Social Services; District Police; Attendance; Student Enrollment; and the Legal departments, the district was able to connect with families to address barriers and increase partnerships with the Sheriff’s Office.

**DESIGNATION**

Wolf Lake Elementary was designated a Grief-Sensitive School by the New York Life Foundation. It received a Grief-Sensitive Schools Initiative grant to help create a bereavement support plan and encourage ongoing staff development to better support students who experienced the death of a loved one.
DEDICATED AND HIGH-QUALITY TEAM
OCPS is proud of the many accomplishments of all our staff who help lead our students to success each day.
**RECOGNITIONS**

Ken Boyd, West Orange High director of bands and orchestra, received the Oliver Hobbs Award from the Florida Bandmasters Association. This award celebrates Florida band directors with at least 15 years of service who earn superior ratings (at least 75% of the time) at concert and marching Music Performance Assessments, and render service to the profession in a leadership role or on a committee.

Jennifer Buck, resource teacher at Aloma Elementary School, was named the 2020 Florida Literacy Association Teacher of the Year. The award is given to an individual who has made significant contributions in the teaching of reading and literacy.

Art teachers Abigail Callaway (left), of Dr. Phillips High School, and Kris Finn (right), of Howard Middle School, were recognized by the Florida Arts Education Association. Callaway received the Local Art Education Association Leader Award for her advocacy for arts education. Finn received the June Hinckley Art Educator Award of Excellence for providing students a growth opportunity and chance to be part of a larger community.
Brenda Christopher-Muench, physical education resource teacher with Advanced Studies, received the Don Knitt Service Award by SHAPE Florida. The award recognizes a member who makes significant contributions to the organization of public and private school physical education and health education teachers who work to enhance knowledge, improve professional practice and increase support for high-quality health and physical education, nutrition programs and physical activity.

Scott Evans, senior director of Visual and Performing Arts and the School Board of OCPS received the District Administrator Award and the School Board Award, respectively, from the Florida Alliance for Arts Education. FAAE recognizes leaders who work in various capacities to ensure that arts education is of the highest quality and is available in all Florida schools and communities.

Kim Frye, director of Transportation Administration, was named 2020 Administrator of the Year by School Bus Fleet. The publication provides industry news for transportation professionals in the United States and Canada.

Lora Gilbert, senior director of Food and Nutrition Services, received the Jane Wynn School Nutrition Excellence Award for 2019-2020 from the Florida School Nutrition Association. The award recognizes an individual’s exceptional work or deeds to inspire excellence in the school nutrition program in Florida, thereby improving the quality of life of children.

Mario Ford, director of bands at Evans High School, received a 2021 Tom Bishop Award from the Florida Bandmasters Association. The award recognizes an FBA member who has turned around a band program and made a significant and positive difference in a short amount of time.
Kelly Paduano, Ed.D., Timber Creek High principal, received the 2021 Distinguished Administrator Award by the Florida Music Education Association.

Angela Pagunsan, director of bands for Timber Springs Middle School, and Brian Sullivan, director of bands at Glenridge Middle School, earned the Florida Bandmasters Association’s Linda Mann Award. This recognition is presented to junior high or middle school band directors who earn Superior ratings at the FBA District Concert Music Performance Assessment for five consecutive years.

Evan Powers, Avalon Middle School choral director, received the 2021 Exemplary Model Project Award from the Florida Music Education Association for his Songbird Project. FMEA is a not-for-profit professional education association that serves and supports music education across Florida.
Steven Reece, Oak Ridge High School's Boys Basketball head coach, was voted Florida Athletic Coaches Association District 11 Class 7A Coach of the Year and Florida Athletic Coaches Association District 11 Overall Coach of the Year. The FHSAA organizes sports competitions for high schools throughout the state. FACA is comprised of men and women coaches and athletic directors around the state.

Peter Schmidt, Orange Technical College - Mid Florida Campus Electricity instructor, was selected as the SkillsUSA Rookie Educator of the Year. SkillsUSA is a national nonprofit education association that prepares students for careers in trade, technical and skilled service occupations.

Jillian Sutton, athletic trainer at Windermere High School, was awarded the High School Athletic Trainer of the Year by the Athletic Trainers’ Association of Florida. The award recognizes a high school athletic trainer who has displayed throughout that year a high level of professionalism and whose actions have improved the profession and the association.

Ben Witherspoon, Dr. Phillips High School Boys Basketball head coach, was named District 7A State Coach of the Year by the Florida Dairy Farmers. Its high school awards program is one way Florida Dairy Farmers partners with schools to support health and wellness.

Nina Vargas, School Food Service manager with Food and Nutrition Services, received the 2019-20 Silver President’s Award from the Florida School Nutrition Association for the successful completion of the initiatives included in the action plan for the year. The FNSA promotes child nutrition programs for wellness and academic success.
Curriculum and Digital Learning was honored by Learning Forward Florida with the 2020 Outstanding Professional Learning Practices Award for creating IMPACT (Instructional Mastery of Pedagogy and Curriculum Training) professional development for content area teachers.

Procurement Services received:

- The Florida Association of Public Procurement Officials’ Best Practice Award for the second consecutive year. The best practice submitted showcased use of SmartSheet, which provides a more streamlined process to manage contracts through the contract database.

- The 2020 Achievement of Excellence in Procurement Award from the National Procurement Institute for organizational excellence in public and nonprofit procurement. The award criteria measure innovation; professionalism; e-procurement; productivity; and leadership attributes of the procurement function.

- The 2021 Florida Association of Public Procurement Officials Award of Excellence in Public Procurement. The award recognizes organizational excellence in procurement for agencies that meet or exceed benchmarks and best practices in the procurement profession and is achieved by those organizations that obtain a high score on a rating of standardized criteria.

Public Relations received the following from the National School Public Relations Association:

- Awards of Excellence for the Orange Peal; 2019-20 Pocket Guide; OCPS 150th Anniversary Branding Package; and OCPS Fast Fact Infographic

- Award of Merit for 2018-19 Annual Report
Health & Wellness

- Increased participation in Cigna’s telehealth options by 18%
- Hosted 26 flu-shot clinics throughout the district for OCPS employees and their family members
- Completed 27 virtual wellness seminars
- Provided four on-site mammography screenings
- Offered digital diabetes prevention program through Cigna and Omada Health, and Thrive diabetes care program through Cigna and the AdventHealth Diabetes Institute
EFFICIENT OPERATIONS
OCPS seeks to save money through operational efficiencies and cost reductions for reinvestment into the classroom and student achievement.

**SAVINGS**

- Secured more than **$38 million** in savings through rigorous contract negotiations and competitive sourcing strategies
- Saved or returned **$6.5 million** through utility billing monitoring and audits
- Recycled **291,263 pounds** of electronic waste such as CPUs, laptops and various IT materials, diverting it from the landfill
- Received **$32,684** recycling rebate as part of the single-stream recycling program
- Saved nearly **$775,000** by adjusting solid waste and recycling services pickups at schools and facilities
- Earned **$2.08 million** e-payables rebates
- Diverted **$3 million** to purchase fresh produce and support local farmers, thanks to the FNS Procurement office working with the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
- Moved to Scoir, a new college and career resource platform for high school students to research colleges, upload admissions documents, create resumes and determine financial costs, saving the district **$598,000** a year
- Returned **$3.8 million** through the Owner Direct Purchase program, which allows OCPS to purchase materials for capital projects by taking advantage of its sales tax exemption
- Recycled **43.3 tons** of copper, aluminum and steel component materials in Portable Operations with a value of more than **$57,379.48**
- Earned **$192,468** in energy rebate programs from energy-saving elements incorporated into each school construction project
**BUILDING UPDATE**

The capital renewal program started construction on **19 projects** with a value of **$9 million**.

The program completed **32 projects** at a cost of **$90 million**.

There are currently **37 active projects** in progress for improvements at 63 sites, with an estimated cost of **$196 million**.

The program completed **218 projects** at a cost of approximately **$254 million**.

Below are the new, replaced and renovated schools that opened in 2020 or 2021.

**2020**
- Acceleration West High School (renovation)
- Boone High School gym (replacement)
- 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)

**2021**
- Horizon High School (new)
- Lake Buena Vista High School (new)
- Meadow Woods Middle School (renovation)
- Silver Pines Academy K-12 Learning Center (replacement)
- Village Park Elementary (new)
POSITIVE CLIMATE AND SAFE ENVIRONMENT
OCPS is constantly evaluating and finding ways to improve school safety, including providing a safe learning and working environment for its students, employees and visitors.

**COVID-19 RESPONSE**

In addition to offering students various learning models, the district:

- Hired additional temporary custodial staff to clean and disinfect schools and facilities.
- Created a Medical Advisory Committee to provide guidance and field questions from parents, students, staff and community members.
- Created a COVID-19 Health and Safety Procedures Manual that was updated as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention adjusted recommended safety measures.
- Made adjustments to accommodate students on buses, including keeping to two students per seat, conducting additional cleaning and disinfection procedures between runs, and maintaining improved ventilation by opening roof hatches and back windows to circulate air.
- Created the COVID-19 dashboard to track cases among students and staff.
- Shipped personal protective equipment and supplies to schools and administrative sites, including:

  - Gloves: 5,017,500 units
  - Disposable masks: 3,878,300 units
  - Reusable masks: 4,070,000 units
  - Hand sanitizer: 54,083 bottles
  - Thermometers: 1,114 units
  - Disposable gowns: 83,690 units
• Partnered with AdventHealth to offer **COVID-19 testing** for student-athletes who participated in high-contact sports.

• Instituted **temperature checks** and **mask wearing** at all OCPS facilities.

• Promoted **vaccination events** held on school campuses across the district.

• Provided more than **44 million meals** (regular menu in schools and at curbside meal distributions).

  This included:

  - Distributing summer **Grab-and-Go curbside meals**, which increased by 300% over FY20.
  - Delivering **24,314 meals** to **7,455 students** in hotels and shelters.
  - Providing nearly **700,000** holiday meals.

**SAFETY**

• The OCPS Police department used a grant to purchase **equipment and software** in the Global Intelligence Operations Center for real-time monitoring and information management during school emergencies.

• The team added a new team member, **Coco**, a K9 German Shorthaired Pointer, to assist in conducting school safety screenings.

• The Information Security team upgraded the **video surveillance system** on 40 servers to improve OCPS’s security profile.

**WELLNESS**

• OCPS was a recipient of the **2020 Cigna Well-being Award** for Honorable Culture of Well-being. The award is given to organizations that are making a difference in the health and well-being of its employees.

• OCPS was recognized at the Gold level as a **Florida Healthy School District** for May 2019 through April 2021. This award recognizes a culture and climate that embraces the Coordinated School Health approach to reduce and eliminate barriers to learning and support academic achievement.
ENGAGED AND INVESTED COMMUNITY
Our community members provide invaluable skills and resources that support our students and teachers.

**FOUNDATION FOR OCPS**

The Foundation for Orange County Public Schools invests in our children today to strengthen our community tomorrow. This school year the Foundation raised or managed **$4.1 million** to build educational equity. In addition, invested funds held by the Foundation to benefit OCPS students, teachers and programs grew to more than **$4.4 million**.

**11,602 ADDitions volunteers**

**43,810** volunteer hours logged (valued at **$1.1 million**)

**2,854 Partners in Education**

Notable contributions from community partners included:

- Central Florida Community Arts, Central Florida Vocal Arts and Orlando Philharmonic Orchestra providing over **400** private virtual lessons per month to **100** students free of charge.

- A Gift for Teaching providing **28** schools, **seven** hotel sites and **four** shelters with over **6,000** school supply kits to students in need.

- A **$325,000** multiyear grant through 2025-26 from the VoLo Foundation for the Eco Clubs at Millenia Gardens Elementary and Westridge Middle schools.

**PARENT ACADEMY**

The district held **27 sessions** for approximately **895 parents/caregivers**. In **four Virtual Parent Academy** seminars, family engagement opportunities were provided in four languages (English, Spanish, Haitian Creole and Portuguese) to **1,635 participants**.

Other community activities included:

- Creating a search engine, Community Connect, [www.communityconnect.ocps.net](http://www.communityconnect.ocps.net), in partnership with the Aunt Bertha Company, that can be used to assist staff, families and the OCPS community to connect with community-based organizations. The search engine helps teachers, staff and parents better navigate resources for food; housing; goods; transit; health; money; foster care; adoption; education; work; and legal services. Information found in the database can be translated into more than 100 languages.
• Hosting the Big IDEA Conference to provide an atmosphere of open collaboration to empower and support families of students with exceptionalities.

• Hosting 31 virtual community meetings for School Board Members with the school community; residents; business owners; and local government officials. These meetings included presentations and question-and-answer sessions to inform the public regarding upcoming and ongoing projects during the planning; design; construction; and closeout phases.

• Collaborating with WFTV and surrounding Central Florida school districts to create student lessons and professional development opportunities for teachers on the history of the Ocoee Massacre.

• Working with the school’s School Advisory Council, community members, school faculty and students to change the name of Stonewall Jackson Middle School to Roberto Clemente Middle School.

AWARDS

Meadow Woods Elementary received the Florida Department of Education’s 2019-2020 Family and Community Involvement Award (Region III, Elementary) for its Parent and Family Resource Center. It was one of five elementary schools in the state to earn this recognition that highlights exemplary school programs and practices which meaningfully engage families and the community to enhance student success.
Leading students to success

The School Board of Orange County, Fla., does not discriminate in admission or access to, or treatment or employment in its programs and activities, on the basis of race, color, religion, age, sex, national origin, marital status, disability, genetic information, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or any other reason prohibited by law. The following individuals at the Ronald Blocker Educational Leadership Center, 445 W. Amelia Street, Orlando, Florida 32801, attend to compliance matters: Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Officer & Title IX Coordinator: Keshara Cowans; ADA Coordinator: Jay Cardinali; Section 504 Coordinator: Tajuana Lee-Wenze. (407.317.3200)