

Mission Statement

Each student will acquire the skills, attitudes and knowledge necessary to reach full potential.

District Profile

- The Orange County public school system is the 14th largest district out of more than 16,000 in the nation and is the fifth largest in Florida. To better serve schools and students, the district is divided into five regional learning communities.
- The school system owns 4,394 acres of property.

	Number of Schools	Students
Elementary	105	75,216
Middle	27	37,687
High	16	*48,148
Alternative/Exceptional	4	**5,567
Total	152	166,816

* This includes ninth grade centers and Robert Hungerford Preparatory High School.

** This includes students at four exceptional education schools and at alternative centers, located at 23 separate sites.

Student Racial/Ethnic Distribution

White	40.58%
Black	28.41%
Hispanic	25.72%
Asian/Pacific Islander	3.77%
Multi-Cultural	1.15%
American Indian/Alaska Native	.37%

Postsecondary Education

OCPS provides job preparation and employability skills training to approximately 48,000 students through the Department of Workforce Education. Students are enrolled in classes that range from one-hour seminars, to two-year technical/vocational programs to personal enrichment courses. Adult Basic Education, High School Credit, Adult English Literacy and GED preparation classes are also offered. The student population varies in age from high school students to senior citizens

Instruction takes place primarily in four technical centers and 13 adult community education centers, which are located on the high school campuses. An additional 17,000 adults take advantage of personal enrichment classes offered at the adult community centers.

Transportation

The Orange County public school system operates the largest public transportation system in Central Florida. OCPS school buses travel more than 17 million miles annually, or 95,800 miles on an average school day.

State law requires that any student living beyond two miles be provided transportation to school. This year, 997 buses will transport nearly one-half of the student population to and from school each day.

OCPS Facts

- According to Orange County’s 2002-03 Senior Exit Survey, 92 percent of the graduates responding planned to enter a vocational school, college or university.
- Of Orange County’s 6,938 graduates in 2003, 4,046 received scholarships totaling nearly \$14 million.
- The Extended Day Enrichment Program provides before- and/or after-school child care for 13,000 students in 88 elementary schools.
- Students in Orange County schools come from 230 countries and speak 165 different languages and dialects.
- The school board consists of seven members who are each elected from single-member districts and serve staggered, four-year terms. The superintendent is appointed.
- Every school has a School Advisory Council made up of parents, students, educators and community members. SACs help develop and implement School Improvement Plans.
- The Orange County public school system operates one of the largest food systems in Central Florida, serving more than 15 million meals a year, including breakfast at elementary schools.

Personnel

The Orange County school system is the second largest employer in Central Florida.

Annual Salaried

Administrators

District Level	215
School Level	479
Technical	45
Subtotal	739

Instructional

(includes teachers, guidance counselors, media specialists, school psychologists, registered nurses, social workers)	11,018
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Classified

(includes paraprofessionals, clerks, secretaries, computer operators, bus drivers, food service assistants, custodians, maintenance workers)	7,764
Subtotal	19,521

Part-Time Positions

(includes substitute teachers, part-time hourly teachers, substitute custodians, substitute food service assistants)	3,286
Total	*22,807

*Figures do not include employees on a leave of absence.

- Instructional and classified personnel make up 96 percent of the OCPS work force.
- More than 35 percent of OCPS teachers have advanced degrees. More than 33 percent have master’s degrees, and 2 percent have specialist’s and doctorate degrees.

Volunteer Opportunities

- The ADDitions School Volunteers program began with 200 volunteers in 1971. Last year more than 65,000 volunteers contributed more than 1.2 million hours. Computed at \$15 an hour, this represents \$18 million in contributions.
- Businesses can get involved in the school system in a number of volunteer programs, such as Partners in Education. At the end of the 2001-02 school year, the district had 2,500 partnerships involving 1,700 businesses.
- In 2001-02, 135 Orange County schools had active PTA/PTSA local units with a total membership of more than 38,000.

ORANGE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

2003-2004 Budget

General Fund	\$1,035,878,202
(operating budget – used for salaries and benefits, utility costs, maintenance expenses, supplies and equipment)	
Special Revenue Fund	52,463,304
(used for food services, federal and other grant projects)	
Debt Service Fund	75,945,695
(used for the repayment of bonds and loan debts)	
Capital Projects Fund	716,269,952
(used for new construction, land improvement and remodeling)	
Internal Service Fund	121,598,149
(used for the accounting of money and property held by the school board in the capacity of trustee, custodian or agent)	

- Approximately 72 percent of the general fund (operating budget) goes for salaries and benefits.

Teacher Salaries

- The beginning salary for a teacher with a bachelor’s degree is \$31,317. For a master’s degree, add \$2,250; for a specialist’s degree, add \$3,450; for a doctorate, add \$4,550.
- The average pay for teachers is \$35,334. In addition, the school board pays an average of \$8,646 (\$2,035 for retirement, \$2,703 for FICA, \$3,830 for health insurance and \$78 for life insurance) per teacher for benefits.

Average Dollars Spent Per Pupil (2003-2004)

Per Full-Time Equivalent Student.....\$5,863

Student Testing

Many students take standardized tests because of district, state or federal requirements. Also, high school students are encouraged to take the SAT, ACT, PSAT, and PLAN. Tests that evaluate school readiness, social maturity, intelligence and musical ability also are administered in certain situations.

The Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT) is the major assessment of student progress in Florida. The FCAT is designed to assess how well students have met the Sunshine State Standards and Grade Level Expectations adopted by the State Board of Education. These standards and expectations set out what students are expected to know and be able to do at each grade level. The FCAT includes a test of reading and mathematics in grades 3-10, science in grades 5, 8, and 10, and writing in grades 4, 8 and 10.

Passing the FCAT is a graduation requirement. A student must pass both the reading and math portions of the test to receive a regular high school diploma. Students have six opportunities to pass the FCAT before graduation.

A second component of the FCAT is a norm-referenced test administered by the state of Florida in grades 3-10. A reading and math test is included in this norm-referenced test to compare students to a national norm group.

Exceptional Student Education Services

The Orange County public school system offers services for exceptional students in 15 areas. The services are for students identified as:

- Autistic
- Deaf and Hard of Hearing
- Educable Mentally Handicapped
- Emotionally Handicapped
- Gifted
- Hospital/Homebound
- Other Health Impaired
- Physically Impaired
- Profoundly Mentally Handicapped

Accelerated Programs

Orange County offers a variety of accelerated and enrichment options in its elementary and secondary schools. Advanced Placement, honors, International Baccalaureate and/or gifted education courses are offered at the high school level. Gifted education programs are available to all eligible students.

Magnet programs have been established at several elementary and all high schools. Elementary magnets are Aviation/Aerospace at Durrance; Dual Language at Engelwood; Foreign Language at Hillcrest; Fine Arts Academy at Pinewood; Science at Princeton; and Economics Microsociety at Rock Springs. Grades 6-8 programs are located at Arbor Ridge and Windy Ridge School. The high school programs are Medical Careers at Apopka; Law and Finance at Boone; both Animal Science and Information Technology at Colonial; International

Baccalaureate programs at Cypress Creek, University, and Winter Park; both International Studies and Visual and Performing Arts at Dr. Phillips; Engineering, Science and Technology at Edgewater and Apopka; Microelectronics Engineering at Evans; both Academy of Business and Industry and Sports Medicine and Management at Jones; Aviation/Aerospace and Hotel Management at Oak Ridge; and Global Information and Future Technologies at University. Robert Hungerford Preparatory High School is a district magnet high school that offers four programs: Agricultural Biotechnology, Global Business, Information Systems and International Culinary Arts.

Technology and Innovation

- OCPS has more than 50,000 computers and laptops in the schools, the majority of which are connected to a wide area network, the district's main computing center and the Internet.
- Several high schools provide a high-tech curriculum, including instruction in programs such as Cisco Academies, Oracle Academies, A+ Certification, Academies of Information Technology (AOIT), Web design and courses in modeling and simulation.
- Mobile wireless laptop labs provide teachers and students with flexibility for training, research, and collaborative projects.

Achievements

- For the 12th year in a row, OCPS was named a winner of the What Parents Want Award by SchoolMatch, the nation's largest school selection consulting firm.
- Seventy-seven Orange County teachers earned certification last year from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS), the profession's highest credential. OCPS has a total of 232 nationally-certified teachers, one of the highest numbers in the state.
- Sixty schools have been recognized as Five Star Schools this year by the state, the fifth highest number in Florida. This program recognizes schools that have met the highest criteria for parent and community involvement.
- The number of schools earning A grades from the state nearly doubled in 2003 from 40 to 78. One hundred and three schools earned A's and B's this year, and overall Orange County students are posting stronger gains in reading and math than student statewide.

For more information call 407.317.3237.

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