



# ORADELL PUBLIC SCHOOL



[www.oradellschool.org](http://www.oradellschool.org)  
August 2023

## A Note From the Principal

For most of my life as a child and teen, I took and taught ballet lessons. Every year when shopping for supplies, my mom would marvel that I was continuing. She was proud of my commitment but more impressed because I'm a notorious klutz. I've been falling down just from walking since I was little. It still happens as an adult - sometimes, my feet just fly out from under me. Thankfully, I've never been seriously injured, though if you ever walk down a lot of steps with me, you'll find I'm cautious.

The Japanese proverb "Nana korobi, ya oki" means "Fall down seven times, stand up eight." Learning to dance taught me that trying, falling, and rising were some of the most important skills in life. Without knowing it, I was developing grit. Teacher, researcher, and professor Angela Duckworth defines grit as "passion and sustained persistence applied toward long-term achievement, with no particular concern for rewards or recognition along the way."

This year's OPS theme *Mission GRIT: Growth. Reflection. Initiative. Tenacity* will help us focus on our community's commitment to academic and social-emotional learning. Students will continue to learn basics such as reading, math, social studies, physical education, media library, music, and more. The faculty will also focus on building skills such as using problems as possibilities, learning from mistakes, and getting up after a fall.

We look forward to a "gritty" 2023-24. School will be in session on September 6th from 8:30-12:30 PM. In the meantime, please visit the [Current Week's Notices](#) tab on the OPS website for important information. Looking forward to seeing you and your child!

~ Michelle Hawley

## Preparing for 9/6/23



Please complete the following forms on paper. You can print them [HERE](#).

- \* Annual Health Update\*
- \* Dismissal Permission\*
- \*Milk Order (if needed)\*

The following need to be completed in the Parent Portal:

- \* Media Release\*
- \*Student Handbook Sign-Off\*
- \*Emergency Contacts Update\*

*Please list all people who can pick up your child from the Nurse! Please make sure you choose the options for how you would like to be contacted. If you click every phone number listed, all of those numbers will receive "Snow Day Announcements." If you do not click text, you will not receive text blasts.*

## Important Reminders

- Check the OPS Community Calendar on the [front of the website](#) for upcoming events. Subscribe to the calendar by clicking the blue plus at the bottom of the calendar section.
- The letter of the A-F specials schedule is on the front page of the website. Your child's teacher will inform you of the special area class schedule.
- Please sign up for the PTA at [oradellpta.org](http://oradellpta.org).
- Join the PTA Back to School Breakfast on the front lawn at 8:30 on September 15th.
- There will be no PTA lunch options until October.
- Please notify the main office when your child is absent by going to the [link](#) on the front of the OPS website or calling the OPS absence line (201)261-1180.
- All classrooms, except Kindergarten, are nut-free. There is nut-free seating in the lunch room; however, the room is not nut-free.
- Save the Date! Back to School Night.
  - ◆ Grades 4-6 is September 7th
  - ◆ Grades PreK-3 is September 13th

