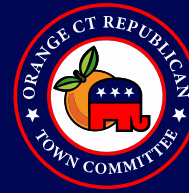




A PERSPECTIVE FROM
RONNETTE JAMES
Candidate for Re-Election,
Orange Board of Education



**Thought
Leadership
Series**

Dear Voters of Orange,

It has been an honor and a privilege to serve on the Orange Board of Education for the past four years. As I seek reelection, I want to share my continued commitment to the students, families, and educators of our community—and to the future of our outstanding school system.

As a resident of Orange for the past 20 years, I am deeply invested in our schools and our town. Both of my sons attended The Peck Place School, where I proudly served as PTO President for seven years. Today, I have a junior at Amity High School, as well as my soon-to-be stepchildren who attend Peck Place (6th grade) and Amity High School (9th grade). Like so many Orange families, I have experienced firsthand the excellence of our schools and the dedication of the educators who make them so special. This is why I chose to raise my family here!

With 25 years of experience in education, I bring both classroom and leadership perspectives to my role on the Board. I currently work as a third-grade teacher and I am a certified reading specialist, which allows me to see the challenges and opportunities our students face every day. This experience has given me a deep understanding of what our schools need to do to help every child succeed.

During my tenure on the Board of Education, I have served on several subcommittees, including Buildings and Grounds, Curriculum, and Personnel, Policy and Transportation. Through this work, I have been actively involved in decisions that support safe, modern learning environments, thoughtful policy development, and strong academic programs that meet the needs of all learners. I have proudly supported initiatives that strengthen and modernize our schools.

I voted to enhance school safety through the addition of School Security Officers, ensuring that our students and staff feel secure each day. I also supported the transformation of the outdated DARE program into the more relevant and engaging SOAR program, which better meets the needs of today's students.



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Most recently, I have had the opportunity to listen to heartfelt requests from community members regarding the acknowledgment and observance of the Eid holiday on our district calendar—an important step in recognizing and respecting the diversity within our community. I am proud of the progress we have made together—and I believe our best work is still ahead.

I am seeking reelection because I care deeply about maintaining the strength and excellence of our school system. I believe that every family in the Town of Orange deserves the peace of mind that comes from knowing their children are receiving the highest quality education possible. I will continue to advocate for the resources, programs, and opportunities that allow all students to reach their full potential.

I bring passion, enthusiasm, and a collaborative spirit to every discussion. I believe in working together—listening to diverse viewpoints, building consensus, and focusing always on what is best for our students. Every decision I make as a Board member is guided by one central question: What is in the best interest of the children of Orange?

As we look to the future, I am eager to continue this important work on your behalf. With your support, I will remain dedicated to ensuring that our schools continue to thrive, our teachers feel supported, and our students are inspired to achieve their dreams.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve this wonderful community. I respectfully ask for your vote for reelection to the Orange Board of Education. Together, we can continue to build on the proud tradition of excellence that defines our schools.

With gratitude and commitment,

Ronnette James
Candidate for Reelection,
Orange Board of Education