

## Frazier honored during King event

Assistant superintendent in Orange will retire after 14 years in district

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More than 700 students from Orange's public schools re-enacted the historic Selma-to-Montgomery trek for voting rights in 1965 by marching Jan. 21 from City Hall to Orange Middle School.

The students walked on Main Street, Scotland Road and Central Avenue. The route included the Scotland Road bridge over Route 280 and the NJ Transit tracks to symbolize the Edmund Pettus Bridge. Television viewers in 1965 saw marchers stopped at the bridge by Alabama troopers who used fire hoses, physical assault and K-9 dogs. At the close of the march, Superintendent of Schools Ronald Lee and Mayor Eldridge Hawkins Jr. stood on the steps leading into the Orange Middle School auditorium and addressed the students. They were asked to remember the objectives of the march and the legacy left by King.

During an annual program in the auditorium, students from each school made presentations in King's honor. They included recitations to illustrate King's life and teachings through speeches and poems. Also in the program were interpretative dance performances by the Orange High School Dance Ensemble, students from Rosa Parks School, EYESHA Marable and members of the High Class Theater Group in the city's Office of Older Adults.

At the close of the program, there was a special tribute to Constance Frazier, assistant superintendent for curriculum and instructional services, who is retiring after 14 years with the district.

In attendance to honor Frazier was former Superintendent Nathan Parker, former interim Superintendent Judith Kronin and former principals, Board of Education members and administrators and city officials. Frazier was recognized for her work from a variety of individuals and groups. Arthur Griffa, vice president of the Board of Education, and board member Wynona Samuels presented a plaque on behalf of the board. She received a resolution, presented by Tai Cooper, Hawkins' chief of staff, and City Councilwoman Donna Williams on behalf of the city.

She also received plaques from Police Director John Rappaport, the Health Occupations Students Association, the Orange Education Association and the Orange Administrators and Supervisors Association. Former and current students with connections to Frazier at the Board of Education's administration building honored her with flowers and their gratitude.

There were special student performances in Frazier's honor by students from Forest Street School who recited "Phenomenal Women," by Maya Angelou, dance pieces by the Orange Middle School Ensemble and the OHS Dance Ensemble and musical performances by the Orange High School Band and Voices in Harmony chorus. The tribute to Frazier closed with a video presentation, "Count On Me."