

Orange preschool center schedules open house

The Orange Early Childhood Center has scheduled its Back to School Night for Tuesday at 6 p.m. in the YWCA of Essex and West Hudson, 397 Park Ave.

Orange school officials said Tuesday the district has taken over the preschool program formerly operated by the YWCA at the location. Approximately 120 preschoolers attend the facility. Jacquelyn Blanton serves as the district's supervisor for early childhood education, which handles the district's preschool program.

Through earlier Abbott vs. Burke rulings, the Orange Board of Education provides a full-day preschool education for the city's 3- and 4-year-old residents. The district offers preschool classrooms in the Heywood Avenue School, Forest Street School, Oakwood Avenue

School and Central Early Childhood Center at Central Rosa Parks Campus School.

The district also contracts with six licensed community child care programs and Head Start. As it is funded through state education aid, there is no fee for the school day, which is from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Before-and after-school care is available; a fee is assessed for this service and is based upon income eligibility.

Additional information is available by contacting the Office of Early Childhood Education at 973-677-4015, ext. 6057, or visit the Orange School District's website: www.orange.k12.nj.us.

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