

Schools in the spotlight

By Chris Sykes Staff Writer

The members of the Orange PTA/ PTO/ PTSA District Council are asking those concerned with education in the city to attend events planned Friday and Saturday.

The parent- teacher organizations throughout the district will present their ninth annual Parent Empowerment Conference on Saturday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Park Avenue School. It will be preceded Friday night by the superintendent's reception for the public at 5 p.m. in Orange Middle School.

"If we develop more parent involvement and better communication and inform our parents, they will be more informed about what's happening in their school district with their children," said Councilwoman Tency Eason, who heads the district's council of parent teacher organizations. Eason said the Board of Education needs to do more to inform parents about their role in the district. She said her organization works to address educational issues districtwide.

"We need our leaders to get out there and see what's going on in these schools," said Eason. "Right now it is taking kids five years to graduate college because their first year is spent in remedial classes." Information about this weekend's events is available by calling 973-820-8999.