



Superintendent's Spotlight of the Week



2019 STEM Family Night Reflections...

Dr. West and the Division of Curriculum Services would like to extend their gratitude to everyone for attending the 2019 Family Stem Night. "It was extremely wonderful for our community to come together as we gained insight, knowledge and skills related to STEM education through creating, exploring and designing," stated Ms. Anita

Champagne, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum Services. We would also like to extend a special note of appreciation to Dr. Renee Horton of NASA for fearlessly sharing her story to further encourage our students and families to overcome whatever obstacles they may face and take the necessary steps to fulfill their destiny. Our various community partners also added to the success of the night.

A special thank you to Dr. Vincent Stallings, Principal of East Orange STEM Academy, for allowing the use of STEM Academy and interaction with the future-ready labs that are really helping to mold the understanding of STEM for all stakeholders.

Congratulations to Mr. Anthony Marino for winning the 2019 Family STEM Night door decorating contest. Mr. Marino will receive a \$25 Amazon gift card! Kudos Team EOSD!



Census National Recruiting.
Be a Census Worker-Extra Income-Flexible Hours-Weekly Pay-
Paid Training \$25 - \$27.50
<https://nj.gov/state/census-resources.shtml>



Parent Information
2020-2021 School Year Applications
<https://www.eastorange.k12.nj.us/news#ParentInformationSession>



Follow us on
Facebook
[@eastorangesd](https://www.facebook.com/eastorangesd)



A Visit at Althea Gibson Academy!!

The newly appointed New Jersey Assistant State Commissioner of Education for Early Childhood Education, Mr. Cary Booker, had the distinct pleasure of visiting the East Orange School District on Friday, October 4, 2019. Ms. Tonya Coston, Deputy Assistant Commissioner for Early Childhood Education, Mr. Joseph Zarra, Essex County Superintendent and other members on the New Jersey Department of Education accompanied him on his visit to preschool classrooms in East Orange to observe developmentally appropriate practices and rigor in our Tools of the Mind curriculum classrooms.

The team, which also included Dr. Kevin R. West, Superintendent, and Assistant Superintendents Dr. Harvest and Ms. Champagne, and Early Childhood Supervisors, Jamilia Aquil and Carolyn Lofton-Simpson, visited **Althea Gibson Academy** and **Zadie's of the Oranges**. Ms. Crystal Davis, Principal of Gibson Academy, led the team on a tour of the school. They were also able to spend time in two classrooms that exemplified best practices in early childhood education, where the children were engaged in the "Family" theme during make-believe-play. The classrooms were vibrant, colorful, inviting

and filled with the student's process art and writings. Frequent and warm positive interactions took place between teacher-child, and child-child. Many of the visitors had the opportunity to interact with our youngest scholars as they were engaged in intentional, theme-related math and literacy activities that were related to the curriculum. Many of the activities and instructions observed were individualized and open-ended.

Following the visit to Gibson Academy, the team continued on their exploration of preschool classrooms by visiting Zadie's of Oranges. Ms. Smith, Director, greeted us warmly and gave the team a tour of her early childhood facility, which included an extended visit in two preschool classrooms. Similar to Gibson Academy, all rooms reflected the "Family" theme and the classroom environments included theme-based props and signs that were created by the students, which were used to extend their cognitive and social/emotional development. Buddy Reading, Graphic Practice and Story Lab (that are Tools of the Mind Literacy activities) were taking place during the Zadie's visit. A representative from the NJDOE highlighted the outstanding implementation of "Buddy Reading" by a teacher at Zadie's of the Oranges. Throughout the visit the team shared with the East Orange representatives inspiring feedback and next steps. A Chinese Proverb states "*If you are planning for a year, sow rice; if you are planning for a decade, plant trees; if you are planning for a lifetime, educate people.*" However, as it relates to early childhood education, we say "*educate our youngest scholars,*" which is what Mr. Booker and his team saw on their visit to the East Orange School District preschool classrooms. Congratulations Team EOSD!



**Dr. Kevin R. West,
Superintendent of Schools**



EOSD BOARD MEMBERS

Terry S. Tucker, President

Darlene Clovis

Marsha B. Wilkerson, Vice President

Wayne R. Stackhouse, Jr.

Cameron B. Jones, Sr.

Vernon Pullins, Jr.

Tashia Owens Muhammad