

WEST ORANGE HIGH SCHOOL 2025-2026 SCHOOL PROFILE

51 CONFORTI AVENUE, WEST ORANGE, NJ 07052

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CEEB # 311613



ADMINISTRATION

Mr. Hayden N. Moore, Superintendent
Dr. Derek Ressa, Dir. of Special Services
Mr. Oscar Guerrero, Principal
Dr. Lesley Chung, Assistant Principal
Mr. Louis DellaPia, Assistant Principal
Dr. Kimberly Mancarella, Assistant Principal
Mr. Ryan DelGuercio, Assistant Principal

SCHOOL COUNSELING

Mr. Aldo Casale
Ms. Anna D'Elia
Ms. Margaret Fahey
Mrs. Madelin Fernandez-Perez
Mrs. Kathryn Furey
Ms. Mary Kehoe
Mrs. Guerlyne Millington
Mr. Louis Pallante
Mrs. Rachel Rosen
Ms. Rosanna Santos

THE COMMUNITY

West Orange, New Jersey, is a community of approximately 48,000 residents in the center of Essex County. The population is culturally diverse and spans all economic strata. West Orange is a primarily residential community located less than 20 miles west of New York City. Its 12.6 square miles are spread over two ridges and valleys of the Watchung Mountains. Approximately one-fourth of the land is open space, consisting of town and county parks, playgrounds, private and public golf courses and undeveloped acreage. The West Orange school system educates approximately 7,000 students in seven elementary schools, three middle schools, and one high school.

THE SCHOOL

West Orange High School has a comprehensive program with a variety of course offerings to meet the needs of its diverse student population which numbers approximately 2,000. A faculty of approximately 240 includes administration and supervisory personnel, as well as Guidance Staff, two full-time Library Media Specialists, three Nurses, two Student Assistance Counselors, and a full-time Child Study Team. The majority of the professional staff members have earned Masters Degrees and 16 have earned Doctorate Degrees.

THE CURRICULUM

West Orange High School offers an individualized curriculum of more than 200+ courses. Students must satisfy the state and local requirements for graduation in grades 9 through 12, and successfully complete a minimum of 135 credits. In addition to the basic academic courses offered at multiple ability levels, there are Honors and Advanced Placement courses in most disciplines. The interests and needs of all students are addressed by programs in career education, technology & engineering education, computer education, performing and fine arts, and English as a Second Language. The Cooperative Education Program provides students with the opportunity to study academics as well as receive on-the-job training. Students can also choose from a wide variety of electives to complement their individualized curriculum.

COLLEGE EXPERIENCE – CLASS OF 2026

Size of Class	539
Percent Attending Four Year Colleges	63%
Percent Attending Two Year Colleges	13%
Other Post-Secondary/Technical/Military	2%
Total Pursuing Further Education	78%

ADVANCED PLACEMENT SCHOLAR AWARDS CLASS OF 2026

AP Scholars	54
AP Scholars with Honor	36
AP Scholars with Distinction	50

24 ADVANCED PLACEMENT COURSE OFFERINGS

During the May 2026 Administration, 343 students took 683 Advanced Placement Exams

Art-Drawing
Art-2D
Art-3D
African American Studies
Biology
Calculus AB
Calculus BC
Chemistry
Chinese Language & Culture
Computer Science A
English Language & Composition
English Literature & Composition

Environmental Science
Government & Politics: United States
Italian Language & Culture
Music Theory
Physics 1
Physics C: Electricity & Magnetism
Physics C: Mechanics
Psychology
Spanish Language
Statistics
United States History
World History

45 HONORS COURSE OFFERINGS

Honors Advanced Dance
 Honors Advanced Theatre
 Honors Algebra 1
 Honors Algebra 2
 Honors Anatomy & Physiology
 Honors Architectural & Engineering Design
 Honors Art 4
 Honors Beginner Heritage Spanish
 Honors Biology
 Honors Chamber Orchestra
 Honors Chamber Choir
 Honors Chemistry
 Honors Chinese 2
 Honors Chinese 3
 Honors Chinese 4
 Honors Python & Networking

Honors College Accounting
 Honors Contemporary World Literature
 Honors Cyber Security
 Honors English 9
 Honors English 10
 Honors Environmental Science
 Honors French 2
 Honors French 3
 Honors French 4
 Honors Geometry & Analysis
 Honors Introduction to Philosophy
 Honors Italian 2
 Honors Italian 3
 Honors Italian 4
 Honors Intermediate Heritage Spanish
 Honors Linux

Honors Modern World History
 Honors Physics
 Honors Pre-Advanced Heritage Spanish
 Honors Pre-Calculus
 Honors Spanish 2
 Honors Spanish 3
 Honors Spanish 4
 Honors Literature & The American Experience
 Honors Survey of British Literature
 Honors United States History 1
 Honors United States History 2
 Honors Virtual Enterprise
 Honors Wind Ensemble

WEIGHTED GPA – WEIGHTING

WOHS does not publish class rank, but provides each student with a Grade Point Average. Grade Point Average is calculated by multiplying the number of credits per course, times the graded weight to determine quality points. Total quality points will be divided by the total credits taken. Our weighted system is as follows:

Academic Grade	AP Courses	Honors Courses	College preparatory Standard Courses
A+	5.33	4.83	4.33
A	5.00	4.50	4.00
A-	4.66	4.16	3.66
B+	4.33	3.83	3.33
B	4.00	3.50	3.00
B-	3.66	3.16	2.66
C+	3.33	2.83	2.33
C	3.00	2.50	2.00
C-	2.66	2.16	1.66
D+	2.33	1.83	1.33
D	2.00	1.50	1.00
D-	1.66	1.16	.66
F	.00	.00	.00

Grade Scale	
Letter Grade	Numerical Equivalent
A+	97-100
A	93-96
A-	90-92
B+	87-89
B	83-86
B-	80-82
C+	77-79
C	73-76
C-	70-72
D+	67-69
D	63-66
D-	60-62
F	50-59
I	Incomplete
NC	No Credit
NM	No Mark

MEAN SAT SCORES – CLASS OF 2026 Each section of the June SAT is scored out of a possible 800 points.

	2026
Mean SAT – Top 10%	
Evidence Based Reading & Writing	687
Math	659
Mean SAT – Top 20%	
Evidence Based Reading & Writing	630
Math	621
Mean SAT - Overall	
Evidence Based Reading & Writing	579
Math	562

WOHS HIGHLIGHTS

★ According to historical high school rankings, West Orange High School was ranked as one of the best 2,000 public high schools in the nation—those that have proven to be the effective in turning out college-ready grads. West Orange High School's ranking is based on six components: graduation rate, college acceptance rate, Advanced Placement exams taken per student, average SAT/ACT scores, average Advanced Placement Scores, and the percent of students enrolled in at least one Advanced Placement course. Furthermore, The Daily Beast, Washington Post and US News & World Report have also named West Orange High School in their Top High Schools.

★ WOHS continuously strives to individualize our educational programs. In our efforts to do so, WOHS has developed the following special programs:

- IMS (Institute for Mathematics and Science)
- IH (Institute for Humanities)
- CEI (Citizen Empowerment Institute)
- AFJROTC (Air Force Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps)

★ In 2026 West Orange High School offers more than 50 co-curricular clubs and activities, including 14 Honor Societies that support academic achievement and special interests. The award-winning music program continues to earn recognition at the local, state, and national levels. The Marching Mountaineers are five-time Bands of America Regional Finalists and have earned numerous local, regional, state, and national championships. The Honors Wind Ensemble has recently performed at the Metropolitan Wind Band Invitational, the Music for All National Concert Band Festival in Indianapolis, the New Jersey Music Educators Association (NJMEA) Conference, and Carnegie Hall. The ensemble is also a frequent representative of Region I at the New Jersey State Gala Concert. West Orange High School is home to three Jazz Ensembles that regularly participate in local and state festivals and competitions. This year, Jazz Ensemble I performed at the Essentially Ellington Festival, qualified once again for the state finals, earned Second Place in New Jersey, and received the Outstanding Saxophone Section Award. Numerous band students successfully auditioned for Area, Region, and All-State Honor Ensembles.

The vocal music program also achieved significant success. Eight students from the Honors Chamber Choir and 9th Grade Choir were selected for the North Jersey Regional Choir, and one student earned placement in the All-State Choir for the 2026–2027 school year. The Honors Chamber Choir received a Superior rating at a regional choir festival. The Glee Choir presented its ninth annual Broadway Night, continuing a tradition that has raised more than \$10,000 for Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS. The Tri-M Music Honor Society continues to induct 40–50 students annually, recognizing members who contribute service to school and community arts programs.

The orchestra program remained active through a variety of performances and community outreach initiatives, including Italian Heritage Night, concerts at the West Orange Memory Center, Back-to-School Night, and Student Expo Night. Honors Chamber Orchestra students participated in a String Quartet Master Class presented by the Music Society of New Jersey. Students also earned positions in the New Jersey Youth Symphony and the Jazz House Big Band. Senior Cormac O'Gorman represented the program internationally as a participant in the New Jersey Youth Symphony Summer Tour of Italy.

The Winter Color Guard competes in both the Mid-Atlantic Indoor Network (MAIN) and Winter Guard International (WGI) circuits. In 2026, the group earned First Place in the Scholastic A2 Class at the MAIN Championships. The Indoor Percussion Ensemble has been featured at festivals throughout New Jersey, including performances at William Paterson University and Caldwell University.

Ten student artists were selected to showcase their work in the prestigious Inspired Minds Exhibition at the South Orange Performing Arts Center (SOPAC). Dance students participated in the Alvin Ailey Dance Residency, working with professional teaching artist, Cedric Greene, and culminating their experience with a public performance at SOPAC.

The Boys' Step Team is a ten-time nationally ranked organization that has been featured on News12 New Jersey, PIX11, and other media outlets. The team currently ranks third in the region and second nationally in the Boys Division of Youth Step USA and previously held the national championship title in 2012. The Girls' Step Team has placed first in several competitions this year and is currently ranked second in the region and second nationally in the Girls Division. Both teams were featured on The Sherri Shepherd Show in February 2026 and remain active in numerous community service initiatives throughout the year.

The Drama Club and Thespian Society continued a strong tradition of excellence in theatre arts. Students earned awards at the Speech and Theatre Association of New Jersey competition and the New Jersey Thespian Festival. The program hosted two Coffeehouse productions and a Miscast Cabaret, inducted new Thespian members, and awarded Honors Bars, National Honors, and International Honors distinctions.

★ At West Orange High School, athletic excellence isn't just a goal—it's a tradition. Home to one of the most dynamic and competitive athletic programs in New Jersey, West Orange provides student-athletes with an environment built for success, high-level competition, and personal growth. Supported by a state-of-the-art athletic complex featuring pristine playing fields, modern courts, a championship-caliber track, and premier training facilities, our campus serves as a benchmark for athletic infrastructure across the region. West Orange High School fosters athletic development across every level of competition, offering extensive roster opportunities to ensure student-athletes can grow within their sport:

- 32 Varsity Teams competing at the highest levels in the state
- 29 Junior Varsity Teams building future talent and competitive depth
- 10 Freshman Teams introducing incoming athletes to high school athletics

Season Highlights Across the Board

Led by Marcus Jackson, who capped an extraordinary career as the 2026 Gatorade National Player of the Year, United Soccer Coaches Association National Player of the Year, and NJ.com State Player of the Year, the Boys Soccer program continues to set the standard.

- Back-to-Back Champions: 2025 & 2026 Super Essex Conference (SEC) American Division Champions
- National Powerhouse: Finished with a 24-2 record, ranked #2 in New Jersey and #8 in the United States

The Girls Basketball team delivered the finest season in school history, finishing 28-4 and setting the school record for most wins in a single season.

- Championship Double: Claimed both the Essex County Championship and Group IV North 1 State Sectional Title for the second consecutive year
- Honors: Named Essex County Team of the Year by *The Star-Ledger* and *NJ.com*

- Milestones: Two players surpassed the 1,000-career-point mark this past season, with one athlete securing a full Division I scholarship and another earning multiple D1 offers

The Football program captured the Super Football Conference Freedom Red Divisional Championship while securing a Top 20 ranking in New Jersey. Beyond team success, the program continues to launch athletes to the next level, sending three players on Division I scholarships alongside nine graduating seniors committing to D2 and D3 collegiate programs.

- Girls Winter Track: Dominated local competition by claiming back-to-back 2025 and 2026 Essex County Championship titles during one of the most decorated runs in school history.
- Girls Spring Track & Field: Captured consecutive 2025 and 2026 Group IV North 1 State Sectional Championships, with five athletes signing collegiate commitments.
- Boys Baseball Set a historic school record with 20 wins in a season, sending six players to the intercollegiate level.
- Girls Flag Football Ranked Top 3 in New Jersey; won their first SFC Divisional Title (2025 & 2026) with 6 players named all-state.
- Girls Volleyball - Featured two nationally recognized players, including a full-scholarship commit to Towson University.
- Boys Swimming - Captured the 2026 SEC Divisional Championship—their first title in over a decade.
- Cheerleading - Won four invitational tournaments and qualified and competed at the National Tournament in Orlando, Florida.
- Wrestling - Placed an elite wrestler in the Top 8 at the New Jersey State Tournament.

The athletic experience at West Orange High School extends beyond the field of play through the award-winning West Orange High School Sports Media Association. Composed of dedicated 9th–12th grade students, this group blends sports journalism, content creation, digital marketing, and business strategy to highlight our student-athletes and connect the entire West Orange community.

COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES – CLASS OF 2026

As in years past, West Orange High School continues to have several acceptances to Ivy League Universities and mini-Ivies, as well as the top state universities and colleges in the nation. Members of the Class of 2026 received acceptances to the following post high school institutions:

Albright College	Lehigh University	Stony Brook University, State University of New York
American University	Lincoln Technical Institute-Iselin	Technische Universiteit Delft
Arcadia University	Lincoln Technical Institute-Union	Temple University
Assumption University	Lincoln University, Pennsylvania	The American University in Cairo
Bard College	Louisiana State University Eunice	The College of New Jersey
Baylor University	Marist University	The Culinary Institute of America
Bergen Community College	Maryland Institute College of Art	The George Washington University
Berkeley College Woodland Park Location	Mercy University	The University of Alabama
Binghamton University, State University of New York	Monmouth University	The University of Scranton
Bloomfield College of Montclair State University	Monroe University-New Rochelle	The University of Tennessee
Boston University	Montclair State University	Towson University
Brown University	Moravian University	Tufts University
Buffalo State University, State University of New York	Morehouse College	Tulane University
Caldwell University	Morgan State University	Tuskegee University
Carnegie Mellon University	New Jersey City University	Union College of Union County
Case Western Reserve University	New Jersey Institute of Technology	University of California-Los Angeles
Coastal Carolina University	New York Institute of Technology	University of California, San Diego
Coker University	North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University	University of Central Florida
Community College of Allegheny County - North Campus	North Carolina Central University	University of Connecticut
County College of Morris	Northeastern University	University of Delaware
Delaware State University	Norwich University	University of Florida
DePaul University	Pace University	University of Hawaii at Manoa
Drexel University	Palm Beach State College - South Campus	University of Kentucky
East Stroudsburg University of Pennsylvania	Penn State University Park	University of Maryland Eastern Shore
Eastwick College - Ramsey	Pillar College	University of Maryland, College Park
Elon University	Point Park University	University of Massachusetts Amherst
Essex County College	Pratt Institute	University of New Hampshire
Fairfield University	Princeton University	University of New Haven
Fairleigh Dickinson University	Purdue University	University of North Texas
Fashion Institute of Technology	Ramapo College of New Jersey	University of Pennsylvania
Felician University	Raritan Valley Community College	University of Pittsburgh
Fortis Institute - Wayne	Rider University	University of Rhode Island
Franklin Pierce University	Rowan University	University of South Carolina-Columbia
Hampton University	Rutgers University - New Brunswick	University of South Florida
Hawaii Pacific University	Rutgers University - Newark	University of the District of Columbia
Hobart and William Smith Colleges	Saint Peter's University	University of Vermont
Howard Community College	Seton Hall University	Virginia State University
Howard University	Seton Hill University	Warren Wilson College
Ithaca College	Spelman College	West Essex County College
Kean University	St. John's University	West Virginia University
Lafayette College	State University of New York College of Agriculture & Technology at Morrisville	Western Connecticut State University
	Stevens Institute of Technology	William Paterson University of New Jersey
		Wilson College
		Young Harris College