



Special Education

WELCOME KIT

2026 - 2027

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Special Education Program Location & Telephone List 2026 – 2027

SCHOOL	PHONE NUMBER	EXT.	PRINCIPAL or ADMINISTRATOR	ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL
SPECIAL EDUCATION DIRECTOR'S OFFICE:	845-291-0200	10210	Dr. James Higgins	
	845-291-0200	10220	Dr. Keith Sullivan	
EMANUEL AXELROD EDUCATION CENTER:				
Liberty Elementary Program / IDT Elementary	845-291-0200	10230	Meghan Gildea	
Raymond C. Cramer Program	845-291-0200	10280	Kelley O'Neill	Caitlin Connelly
STRIVE	845-291-0200	10290	Jodie Maassen	Lauren Maggio
REGIONAL EDUCATION CENTER AT ARDEN HILL:				
Academy at Arden Hill Middle School and High School	845-291-0200	10605	Cynthia Brescia	
IDT Secondary	845-291-0200	10605	Cynthia Brescia	
John A. Flannery Middle and High School / SPARC Middle School	845-291-0200	10680	Barbara Gasperetti	
SATELLITE PROGRAMS:				
Chester Academy Satellite	845-469-2231	3701	Marissa Carlton	
Marguerite A. Flood Middle & High School @ Goshen Main Street RESTART	845-291-0200	10660	Jennifer Lepore	
Including Communities Program	845-291-0200	10290	Jodie Maassen	Lauren Maggio
Middlehope Elementary SPARC Elementary	845-291-0200	10950	Meghan Gildea	Lydia Woodard
Minisink Satellites: Minisink Middle School and High School Otisville Elementary	845-355-5815		Pilar Rocha	
Pine Bush Satellite: Pakanasink Elementary Satellite	845-291-0200	10850	Meghan Gildea	Suzanne Arrington
Pine Island Elementary Newcomer Program (Elementary)	845-291-0200	10670	Marissa Carlton	
Port Jervis Satellites: Hamilton Bicentennial Elementary Port Jervis Middle School Satellite	845-672-0939		Lauren Miller	

2026 – 2027
ORANGE-ULSTER BOCES
SPECIAL EDUCATION
LOCATIONS and HOURS

	BEGINS	DISMISSES
Amy Bull Crist Campus Emanuel Axelrod Education Center 53 Gibson Road, Goshen Liberty Elementary Program Raymond C. Cramer Program STRIVE IDT (Elementary)	8:30 a.m.	2:30 p.m.
Regional Education Center at Arden Hill 4 Harriman Drive, Goshen Academy at Arden Hill Middle School and High School GED (AM & PM), Newcomer GED (AM) IDT (Secondary) John A. Flannery Middle School and High School SPARC (Middle School)	8:12 a.m.	2:08 p.m.
SATELLITE PROGRAMS:		
Chester Academy 64 Hambletonian Avenue, Chester	8:00 a.m.	2:00 p.m.
Goshen Main Street School 227 Main Street, Goshen Marguerite A. Flood Middle School and High School RESTART	8:00 a.m.	2:00 p.m.
Including Communities Program 129 West Main Street, Suite 2, Goshen	8:05 a.m.	2:05 p.m.
Middlehope Elementary School 62 Overlook Drive, Newburgh SPARC (Elementary)	8:30 a.m.	2:30 p.m.
Minisink Middle School 2320 Route 6, Slate Hill	7:50 a.m.	1:50 p.m.
Minisink High School 2320 Route 6, Slate Hill	7:55 a.m.	1:55 p.m.
Otisville Elementary School 2525 Mount Hope Road, Otisville	8:15 a.m.	2:15 p.m.
Pakanasink Elementary School 1953 State Route 302, Circleville	8:30 a.m.	2:30 p.m.
Pine Island Elementary School 20 School House Road, Pine Island Newcomer Program (Elementary)	8:00 a.m.	2:00 p.m.
Port Jervis Hamilton Bicentennial Elementary School 929 Rt 209 Cuddebackville, NY 12729	8:30 a.m.	2:30 p.m.
Port Jervis Middle School Satellite 10 Route 209, Port Jervis, NY 12771	8:30 a.m.	2:30 p.m.

Orange-Ulster BOCES

Student Acceptable Use Guidelines for Computers

Introduction

The Orange-Ulster BOCES has established a computer network and is pleased to offer Internet access for student use. This will allow students access to a variety of Internet resources. In order for students to use the Internet, students and their parents or guardians must first read and understand the following acceptable use guidelines.

Acceptable Uses

1. The computer network in the Orange-Ulster BOCES has been set up in order to allow Internet access for educational purposes. This includes classroom activities, research activities, and the exchange of project-related ideas with other classes. This may include participation in the JASON Project, National Geographic Kids Network or other established programs.
2. Students will have access to the Internet via school computers.
3. Student use of the Internet is contingent upon parent/guardian permission in the form of a signed copy of this Acceptable Use Policy. Parents/guardians may revoke approval at any time.
4. Material created and/or stored on the system is not private. School administrators and appropriate staff may review the system from time to time to ensure that the system is being used properly. For this reason, students should expect that any work created and/or stored on the network may be viewed by a third party.
5. Assigned passwords should be kept private. Accounts and/or passwords may not be shared.
6. Computer users are expected to adhere to the safety guidelines listed below.

Safety Guidelines for Students

1. Never give out your last name, address, or phone number, and never post your photograph.
2. Never agree to meet in person with anyone you have met online unless you first have the approval of a parent or guardian.
3. Notify an adult immediately if you receive a message that may be inappropriate or if you encounter any material that violates this Acceptable Use Policy.

Unacceptable Uses

1. The network may not be used to download, copy, or store any software, shareware, or freeware without prior permission from BOCES staff. The students are not permitted to disable any security or Anti-Virus software.
2. The network may not be used for "commercial" purposes.
3. Use of the network for "advertising" or political lobbying is prohibited.
4. The network may not be used for any activity, or to transmit any material, that violates the United States or local laws. This includes, but is not limited to, illegal activities such as threatening the safety of another person or violating copyright laws.
5. Computer users may not use vulgar, derogatory, or obscene language. Users may not engage in personal attacks, harass another person, or post private information about another person.
6. Computer users may not log on to someone else's account or attempt to access another user's files. "Hacking" or otherwise trying to gain access to another person's or organization's computer system is prohibited.
7. Computer users may not access Web sites, news groups, or any chat areas that contain material that is obscene or that promotes illegal acts. If a user accidentally accesses this type of information, he or she should immediately notify BOCES staff.
8. Computer users may not engage in "spamming" (sending email to more than 10 people at the same time) or participate in chain letters.

Violation of Acceptable Use Guidelines

Students violating the above policy will be dealt with on an individual basis. Students may lose computer and/or network privileges or face legal action where federal or state laws are violated.

ADMINISTRATION

Deborah McBride Heppes
Chief Operating Officer

Kerri B. Stroka, EdD
Deputy Superintendent

Mark P. Coleman
Assistant Superintendent
Finance and Management Services



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2026-2027 Parent/Guardian Permission for Use of the Internet

Please Sign and Return

I have read and understand the information contained in the "Acceptable Use Guidelines for Computers" about appropriate use of the Internet at the Orange-Ulster BOCES. I understand that this form will be kept on file at the school. I give my child permission to access the Internet as outlined in the policy.

Parent/Guardian Name (print) _____

Parent Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

Student Name (print) _____

Student Signature _____ Date _____

Name of Program in Which Student is Registered _____

Permission for Publication of Student Work/Pictures

I give permission for my child's work to be published on the Internet as part of the school curriculum. I understand that the child will be identified by first name only.

Parent/Guardian Name (print) _____

Parent Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

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Notice of Family Education Rights and Privacy Act

September 2026

Dear Parents and Guardians:

This is to advise you of your rights with respect to your child's school records pursuant to the Federal Law known as the "Family Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974." Under the provisions of this law, parents of a student under 18 (or a student who is 18 years of age or older) have a right to inspect and review any and all official records, files and data directly related to their child (or themselves) including all material that is incorporated into the student's cumulative record folder and intended for school use or to be available to parties outside the school or school system, and specifically including, but not necessarily limited to: identifying data, academic work completed, level of achievement scores on standardized, intelligence, aptitude and psychological tests, interest inventory results, health data, family background information, teacher or counselor ratings and observation and verified reports of serious or recurrent behavior patterns.

Parents and students are also entitled to an opportunity for a hearing to challenge the content of such records, to ensure that they are not inaccurate, misleading or otherwise in violation of the privacy or other rights of students, and to provide an opportunity for the correction or deletion of any such inaccurate, misleading or otherwise inappropriate data contained therein. Any questions concerning the procedure to be followed in requesting such a hearing should be directed to Dr. James Higgins, Director of Special Education, Orange-Ulster BOCES, 53 Gibson Road, Goshen, New York 10924.

Student records and any material contained therein which is personally identifiable, with the exception of "directory information," (see the enclosed Parent Notification Regarding the Release of Information) are confidential and may not be released or made available to persons other than parents or students without the written consent of such parents or students (if over age 18). There are a number of exceptions to this rule such as: Court Orders, other school employees, other schools that have requested records for any student who is enrolled or seeks, intends, or is instructed to enroll in the school, certain State and Federal officials, etc. who have a legitimate educational need to access such records in the course of their employment or normal duties and responsibilities.

The following procedures shall be applicable for making student records available to parents of students under eighteen years of age or to a student eighteen years of age or older:

- A. All student records shall be available only during regular office hours from the office of the appropriate Program Director within BOCES.
- B. Such records shall be attainable only from those administrators and other personnel designated by the District Superintendent of Schools through a written request specifically outlining the material to be reviewed.
- C. Any document included in the student record folder may be examined within the said offices of the BOCES and may not be removed there from, provided such records are not then in use or needed by the office personnel in the discharge of their regular office duties.
- D. Documents may be copied by photocopier or other mechanical devices at a cost of 25¢ per face of each document.
- E. Parents who wish to challenge the content of their child's school records shall identify in writing the record or records, which they believe to be inaccurate, misleading or otherwise in violation of the privacy or other rights of the student, together with a statement of the reasons for their challenge to the record. This written challenge shall be submitted to the Program Director for a reply.
- F. The Director shall provide a written response to a parental challenge within fifteen (15) working days of receipt of that challenge.
- G. If a parent requests a hearing following the written response of the Director, it shall be granted within thirty (30) working days by the District Superintendent or his designee. Upon completion of the hearing, a written decision shall be rendered within ten (10) working days by the official before whom the hearing was held. A copy of the decision will be mailed to the person(s) requesting the hearing and one copy will be affixed to the records of the student in question.

If you have any question regarding the provisions of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act or the BOCES policy with respect to this law, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Sincerely,

James Higgins

James Higgins, Ed.D.
Director of Special Education

ADMINISTRATION

Deborah McBride Heppes
Chief Operating Officer

Kerri B. Stroka, EdD
Deputy Superintendent

Mark P. Coleman
Assistant Superintendent
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Hearing Impairment Accommodation

September 2026

Dear Parents and Guardians:

If you have a hearing impairment that prevents meaningful participation in school related meetings or activities, the Orange-Ulster BOCES will provide interpreter services or reasonable accommodations to assist in participation at your child's educational program.

The Cooperative Board will provide, at no cost to the parent, an interpreter of the deaf for all school meetings and activities that are specific to the academic and/or disciplinary aspects of the child's educational program.

For all school meetings and activities conducted by the Cooperative Board and open to the public, the BOCES will provide interpreter services or reasonable accommodations at no cost to the parent, if the BOCES is notified of the need for such service by the parent at least **FIVE WORK DAYS** prior to the event.

If you have a hearing impairment and would like additional information regarding the available services, please contact:

Dr. James Higgins
Director of Special Education
Orange-Ulster BOCES
53 Gibson Road
Goshen, New York 10924

or call (845) 291-0200 ext. 10210

Sincerely,

James Higgins

James Higgins, Ed.D.
Director of Special Education

ADMINISTRATION

Deborah McBride Heppes
Chief Operating Officer

Kerri B. Stroka, EdD
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Lauren Miller
Kelley O'Neill
Pilar Rocha

Assistant Principals

Suzanne Arrington
Caitlin Connelly
Lauren Maggio
Lydia Woodard

September 2026

Dear Parent/Guardian:

This letter is to inform you that all BOCES Special Education Classes will be closed all day on **Thursday, January 14, 2027 and Friday, January 15, 2027**. This closing is for teachers and support staff to develop Individual Education Plans for the upcoming 2027-2028 school year. Special Education students who attend CTE classes will be excused and the GED Program will not meet.

This closing includes students who attend the BOCES Special Education classes at: Including Communities Program, Marguerite A. Flood programs, Academy at Arden Hill, Middlehope Elementary, Minisink Valley (High School, Middle School and Otisville Elementary School), Newcomer Program, Pakanasink Elementary School, Port Jervis Middle School and Hamilton Bicentennial Elementary School, Restart, IDT, SPARC, and Warwick Pine Island Elementary, as well as the programs at the Special Education Center in Goshen.

Please be sure to mark your calendar that there will be **no school** on **Thursday, January 14, 2027 and Friday, January 15, 2027**. In the event that snow causes buildings to be closed for staff on either of these days, the **snow date** for these IEP Development days will be **Tuesday, January 19, 2027**.

This letter is only for Special Education students. It **does not apply** to the CTE programs.

Thank you for your continued support and cooperation.

Sincerely,

James Higgins

James Higgins, Ed.D
Director of Special Education

JH:pw

MEDICAL EMERGENCY AUTHORIZATION FORM 2026-2027

The **Orange-Ulster BOCES** Special Education Program must have parental permission to provide emergency medical treatment to your child in the event an accident occurs during school hours. This form will be used **only** if a parent or the adult(s) listed below cannot be reached. **Orange-Ulster BOCES** student accident insurance pays only for costs **NOT** covered by your family insurance. Your health insurance policy number will be needed by the hospital before your child can be treated. Please provide the information below promptly so that we can provide medical attention as quickly as possible in the event of an emergency. Please call the **BOCES** Health Office if you have any questions. Thank you.

Student: _____ **DOB:** _____

Address: _____ **District:** _____

(City)

(State)

(Zip Code)

*** In case of emergency, please list the order in which you would like us to contact the following ***

1 st Person Contacted	Parent/Guardian	Relationship to student	Telephone by order of preference	Home/Work/Cell
			1)	
	Contact lives with student? ☐ Yes ☐ No		2)	
			3)	

E-Mail: _____

2 nd Person Contacted	Parent/Guardian	Relationship to student	Telephone by order of preference	Home/Work/Cell
			1)	
	Contact lives with student? ☐ Yes ☐ No		2)	
			3)	

E-Mail: _____

3 rd Person Contacted	Other	Relationship to student	Telephone by order of preference	Home/Work/Cell
			1)	
	Contact lives with student? ☐ Yes ☐ No		2)	
			3)	

E-Mail: _____

Health Care Provider: _____ **Phone No.:** _____

Medication (Include name, dosage, time): _____

Medical Conditions/Problems: _____

Allergies (asthma, etc.): _____

Special Equipment: _____

Private Medical Insurance (name, policy number): _____

Medicaid Medical Insurance (name, policy number): _____

My signature below authorizes Orange-Ulster BOCES to release my child's confidential information to school staff or other persons who have a need to know: teacher, principal, nurse, school district transportation director and school bus driver as needed, to provide safe transport to and from school. All other student information and records will be kept in a confidential manner and will not be released without written authorization of parents or guardians.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ **Date:** _____



ORANGE-ULSTER BOCES HEALTH SERVICES MEDICAL RESTRICTION FORM **2026-2027**

Student's Name: _____ **DOB:** _____ **Date:** _____

TO: HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS – Please indicate which, of the following applies to this student and the medical reason for any restriction. Thank you.

A) **NO RESTRICTIONS** - *Restrictions required for school activities or physical education.*

-OR-

B) **ADAPTIVE PHYSICAL EDUCATION** - *Student may participate in all school activities that have been adapted to meet the special needs of each student.*

Students who have limitations and/or who are physically challenged routinely have adaptations to their school programs. Students do not need to be restricted further **unless there are additional medical problems.**

-OR-

C) **SEIZURE PROTOCOL ACTIVITY LEVEL**

*(Only for Students Diagnosed With Seizures-please check box)

☐ **CATEGORY 1** Student has a history of seizures. Student can participate in all in school activities.
Last seizure activity _____ years.

☐ **CATEGORY 2** Student has a history of seizure that requires direct supervision by staff when student is using elevated, rotational equipment or engaged in activities that involve heights or climbing.

☐ **OTHER** Please describe what limitations the student requires in order to maintain their safety.

-OR-

D) **PHYSICAL EDUCATION RESTRICTION (other than for seizures)**

***Please check the activities the student is not to participate in:**

Contact/Collision	Limited Contact/Impact	Strenuous Non Contact	Non Strenuous Non Contact	Non Strenuous (Individual)
Floor Hockey ☐	Basketball ☐	Badminton ☐	Archery ☐	Batting ☐
Soccer ☐	Softball ☐	Horseback ☐	Bowling ☐	Crawling ☐
Touch Football ☐	Volleyball ☐	Shop ☐	Golf ☐	Hop/Jump ☐
		Swimming ☐	Ping Pong ☐	Kicking ☐
		Track ☐	Shuffle Board ☐	Skiping ☐
			Walking ☐	Throwing ☐

*ABLE is an adventure bases learning experience involving a classic ropes course of climbing.
Students wear full harness, helmet and have adults spotting them.*

Restricted Until: _____ **Diagnosis:** _____

Telephone No: _____ **Address:** _____

Signature: _____ **Print Name:** _____ **Date:** _____

Form must be completed & signed by Physician, Nurse Practitioner, or Physicians Assistant licensed to practice in NYS

ADMINISTRATION

Deborah McBride Heppes
Chief Operating Officer

Kerri B. Stroka, EdD
Deputy Superintendent

Mark P. Coleman
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Dear Parent, Guardian, and School Staff,

New York State Education Law Section 409-H, effective July 1, 2001, requires all public and nonpublic elementary and secondary schools to provide written notification to all persons in parental relation, faculty, and staff regarding the potential use of pesticides periodically throughout the school year.

Orange-Ulster BOCES is required to maintain a list of persons in parental relation, faculty, and staff who wish to receive 48-hour prior written notification of certain pesticide applications. The following pesticide applications are not subject to prior notification requirements:

- a school remains unoccupied for a continuous 72-hours following an application;
- anti-microbial products;
- nonvolatile rodenticides in tamper resistant bait stations in areas inaccessible to children;
- nonvolatile insecticidal baits in tamper resistant bait stations in areas inaccessible to children;
- silica gels and other nonvolatile ready-to-use pastes, foams, or gels in areas inaccessible to children;
- boric acid and disodium octaborate tetrahydrate;
- the application of EPA designated biopesticides;
- the application of EPA designated exempt materials under 40CFR152.25;
- the use of aerosol products with a directed spray in containers of 18 fluid ounces or less when used to protect individuals from an imminent threat from stinging and biting insects including venomous spiders, bees, wasps, and hornets.

In the event of an emergency application necessary to protect against an imminent threat to human health, a good faith effort will be made to supply written notification to those on the 48-hour prior notification list.

If you would like to receive 48-hour prior notification of pesticide applications that are scheduled to occur in your school, please complete the attached form and return to your student's program or directly to our Health & Safety Department at Orange-Ulster BOCES, 53 Gibson Road, Goshen, NY 10924. Please feel free to contact them should you have any further questions or concerns. Telephone (845)781-4887, Fax (845)360-8336, or e-mail mikayla.ardizzzone@ouboces.org.

Request for Pesticide Application Notification 2026-2027

Student's Location (check one):

- ☐ Emanuel Axelrod Education Center (Special Ed on Main Campus)
- ☐ Career & Technical Education Center (CTE on Main Campus)
- ☐ Regional Education Center at Arden Hill (Special Ed/CTE Satellite)
- ☐ Middlehope Elementary School
- ☐ Other Satellite* _____ (specify location/program)
(PRINT)

Student's Program: _____

Student's Name (PRINT)		Home Address: _____ (PRINT) Street	
First _____	Last _____	City _____	State _____ Zip Code _____
Day Phone: _____ Evening Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____		E-Mail Address (optional): _____	

*Other Special Education Satellites include:

Chester Academy
Goshen Main Street - 227 Main Street
Goshen Including Communities – 129 West Main Street
Minisink Valley MS / HS / Otisville
Warwick Valley – Pine Island
Pine Bush – Pakanasink ES
Port Jervis – MS
Port Jervis – Hamilton Bicentennial ES

Note to OUBOCES Staff:

If you receive a form with "Student's Location" left unmarked, please indicate the location, so we can appropriately log the student's information. Thank you for your assistance and cooperation in this matter.

Please send completed form interoffice.

ADMINISTRATION

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Lauren Miller
Kelley O'Neill
Pilar Rocha

Assistant Principals

Suzanne Arrington
Caitlin Connelly
Lauren Maggio
Lydia Woodard

PARENTAL NOTIFICATION REGARDING THE RELEASE OF INFORMATION

Dear Parent or Guardian:

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), a Federal law, requires that Orange-Ulster BOCES, with certain exceptions, obtain your written consent prior to the disclosure of personally identifiable information from your child's education records. However, Orange-Ulster BOCES may disclose appropriately designated "directory information" without written consent, unless you have advised Orange-Ulster BOCES to the contrary. The primary purpose of directory information is to allow the Orange-Ulster BOCES to include information from your child's education records in certain school publications.

Directory information, which is information that is generally not considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if released, can also be disclosed to outside organizations without a parent's prior written consent. Outside organizations include, but are not limited to, companies that manufacture class rings or publish yearbooks. In addition, two federal laws require local educational agencies (LEAs) receiving assistance under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended (ESEA) to provide military recruiters, upon request, with the following information – names, addresses and telephone listings – unless parents have advised the LEA that they do not want their student's information disclosed without their prior written consent. **[Note: These laws are Section 9528 of the ESEA (20 U.S.C. § 7908) and 10 U.S.C. § 503(c).]**

If you do not want Orange-Ulster BOCES to disclose any or all of the types of information designated below as directory information from your child's education records without your prior written consent, you must notify the Orange-Ulster BOCES in writing by September 13, 2024. Orange-Ulster BOCES has designated the following information as directory information:

- Student's name
- Student's address
- Student's telephone listing
- Date and place of birth
- Grade level
- Participation in officially recognized sports and activities
- Weight and height (for members of athletic teams)
- Dates of attendance
- Honors, degrees and awards received

- Email address
- Name of educational institution previously attended
- Student ID number, user ID or other unique personal identifier used to communicate in electronic systems but only if the identifier cannot be used to gain access to education records except when used in conjunction with one or more factors that authenticate the user's identity, such as a PIN, password or other factor known or possessed only by the authorized user.

Please feel free to contact my office at any time if you have questions about this procedure. We very much appreciate your continued support and cooperation.

Sincerely,

James Higgins

James Higgins, Ed.D.
Director of Special Education



STUDENT IMAGE RELEASE

In order for students to be included in any OU BOCES publications during the 2026-2027 school year, including yearbooks and graduation programs, this form must be signed and returned no later than October 30, 2026.

At Orange-Ulster BOCES, we document our students' experiences throughout the school year through photography and video. We utilize these items in press releases about student accomplishments at Orange-Ulster BOCES and school yearbooks and posters, videos at Recognition Ceremonies, website articles, Facebook posts, advertisements and much more. We do not want your student to miss out on these memory-making opportunities, but we need your permission to include him/her. Please complete the form and return to Orange-Ulster BOCES.

I hereby grant Orange-Ulster BOCES permission to:

- procure my likeness via any photograph, video, audio or other print or digital reproduction
- edit, alter, copy, utilize, exhibit, publish or distribute my likeness without prior inspection or approval
- utilize my likeness for purposes of publicizing the facility, such as any and all of its publications, websites, social media sites, advertising, promotional videos, and other items or for any other lawful purpose it deems acceptable
- distribute my likeness to other entities for publication or presentation
- publish original student work on the BOCES Web pages during the school year or in the future for promotional or publicity purposes

I agree that neither the student named below nor I will receive remuneration of any kind for this permission, and I release the Orange-Ulster BOCES and any of its agents from any responsibility for the use of the items above for the aforementioned purposes.

I agree that Orange-Ulster BOCES does not have control over independent parties (including but not limited to the press, other parents or students, other community organizations, and the general public) who may photograph or video record images of your child while he or she is attending or participating in an Orange-Ulster BOCES sponsored event or representing Orange-Ulster BOCES in the community.

(STUDENT NAME – PLEASE PRINT)

(PROGRAM)

(STUDENT SIGNATURE)

(DATE)

If the student is under 18, the following must also be completed:

I hereby certify that I am the parent or guardian of _____, who is also named above, and do hereby give my consent without reservation to all items addressed in the Student Image Release in regard to said student.

(PARENT/GUARDIAN NAME – PLEASE PRINT)

(DATE)

(PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE)

Please call the main office for your student's program, if you do not wish to complete the form.
Career and Technical Education (845) 291-0300 or Special Education (845) 291-0200



**MILITARY RECRUITERS AND INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION:
ACCESS TO CERTAIN INFORMATION AND OPT OUT FORM**

Access to Certain Information

Under federal law, the District is required to comply with requests from military recruiters and institutions of higher education (IHEs) for access to the name, address, and telephone listing of each secondary school student, except for any student whose parent (or the student, if he or she is at least 18 years of age) has submitted a written request to opt out of this disclosure, in which case the information will not be released without the parent's (or student's, if he or she is at least 18 years of age) prior written consent.

Opting-out

If you do not want the District to disclose your child's name, address, and telephone listing to military recruiters and/or institutions of higher education, you must notify your child's building principal in writing by October 30, 2026.

If you want to opt out of the disclosure of your child's information, complete the section below and return it to your child's building principal.

**MILITARY RECRUITERS AND INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION
OPT-OUT LETTER**

TO: Principal Name: _____ School Name: _____

RE: Student Opt Out: Release of Information to Military Recruiters and/or Institutions of Higher Education

To Whom it May Concern:

I object to Orange-Ulster BOCES releasing the name, address, and telephone number of _____ to:
[print student name]

_____ Military Recruiters

_____ Institutions of Higher Education

I understand that once this form has been signed, I must provide prior written consent for the release of information to military recruiters and/or institutions of higher education.

Signature of parent (or the student, if at least 18 years of age): _____

Date: _____

Food Service Department

Parent Letter

2026–2027



School meals are one of the healthiest sources of food for nearly 30 million American kids, some of whom get as much as half their daily calories at school.

ADMINISTRATION

Deborah McBride Heppes
Chief Operating Officer

Kerri B. Stroka, EdD
Deputy Superintendent

Mark P. Coleman
Assistant Superintendent
Finance and Management Services



BOARD MEMBERS
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William M. Boss, Vice-President
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Lawrence E. Berger
Martha Bogart
David Eaton
Edwin A. Estrada

Jennifer Zupetz
Clerk of the Board

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Welcome to the new school year. Breakfast and lunch will continue to be available at NO CHARGE for all students. Participation in state and federal programs requires ongoing effort and we are proud to have secured this benefit for the 2026-2027 school year, ensuring continued access to nutritious meals for our students.

Participating Orange-Ulster BOCES Sites

Orange-Ulster BOCES Amy Bull Crist Center, 53 Gibson Road, Goshen, NY 10924

Orange-Ulster BOCES Regional Education Center (Arden), 4 Harriman Drive, Goshen, NY 10924

Orange-Ulster BOCES @ Marlboro, 62 Overlook Drive, Newburgh, NY 12550

Orange-Ulster BOCES @ 129 West Main Street, Goshen, NY 10924

Orange-Ulster BOCES @ 227 Main Street, Goshen, NY 10924

Orange-Ulster BOCES @ Pine Island Elementary, 22 Schoolhouse Rd, Pine Island, NY 10969

Students attending any of the locations listed above, will receive breakfast/lunch daily in accordance with the dietary guidelines established by New York State.

All meals are prepared following the USDA school breakfast and lunch meal patterns for 2026-2027 and served at no cost through NYSED and CEP qualification and participation.

PLEASE NOTE ALLERGIES AND SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS

Reasonable Modification:

Any meal modifications must be documented by a physician's prescription or registered dietitian indicating the dietary restriction and the specific accommodations required.

To protect students with severe allergies and to promote a safe and healthy environment, food sharing will not be permitted. Please know that this policy does not restrict the food you send with your child for their personal consumption during mealtimes. As always, the health and well-being of our students remain our highest priority.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact: Katherine Lynch, School Food Service Director at katherine.lynch@ouboces.org | 845-291-0100 ext. 10642

Warm regards,
Katherine Lynch MPH, RD, CDN
Orange Ulster BOCES
School Food Service Director

Nondiscrimination Statement:

In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity.

Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at: <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ad-3027.pdf>, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by:

1. **mail:**
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or
2. **fax:** (833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or
3. **email:** program.intake@usda.gov

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Declaración de no discriminación:

De acuerdo con la ley federal de derechos civiles y las regulaciones y políticas de derechos civiles del Departamento de Agricultura de los EE. UU. (USDA), esta institución tiene prohibido discriminar por motivos de raza, color, origen nacional, sexo (incluidas la identidad de género y la orientación sexual), discapacidad, edad o represalias por actos civiles anteriores.

La información del programa puede estar disponible en otros idiomas además del inglés. Personas con discapacidad que requieran medios de comunicación alternativos para obtener información del programa (por ejemplo, Braille, letra grande, cinta de audio, lenguaje de señas americano), debe comunicarse con la agencia estatal o local responsable que administra el programa. o al Centro TARGET del USDA al (202) 720-2600 (voz y TTY) o comuníquese con el USDA a través del Servicio Federal de Retransmisión al (800) 877-8339.

Para presentar una queja por discriminación en el programa, el demandante debe completar un formulario AD-3027, Programa USDA Formulario de denuncia por discriminación que se puede obtener en línea en: <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ad-3027.pdf>, desde cualquier oficina del USDA, llamando al (866) 632-9992 o escribiendo una carta dirigida al USDA. La carta debe contener el nombre, la dirección, el número de teléfono y una descripción escrita de la supuesta acción discriminatoria del denunciante con suficiente detalle para informarle al Subsecretario de Derechos Civiles (ASCR) sobre la naturaleza y fecha de una presunta violación de derechos civiles. Se debe presentar el formulario o carta AD-3027 completo al USDA por:

1. **Correo:**
Departamento de Agricultura de EE. UU.
Oficina del Subsecretario de Derechos Civiles
1400 Avenida Independencia, SW
Washington, DC 20250-9410; o
 2. **Fax:** (833) 256-1665 o (202) 690-7442; o
 3. **correo electrónico:** program.intake@usda.gov
- Esta institución es un proveedor de igualdad de oportunidades.



Office of P-20 Education Policy
Child Nutrition Program Administration
89 Washington Avenue, Room 375 EBA, Albany, NY 12234
(518) 473-8781 Fax (518) 473-0018
www.nysed.gov/cn/cnms.htm

Letter to Parents for School Meal Programs Community Eligibility Provision

Dear Parent or Guardian:

We are pleased to inform you that Orange-Ulster BOCES will be implementing a meal certification option available to schools participating in the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs for 2026-2027 school year.

What does this mean for your child(ren) attending the school(s) identified above?

All students enrolled at Orange Ulster BOCES locations at: Amy Bull Crist Center, Including Communities, Main Street, Marlboro, Pine Island Elementary, and Regional Education Center are eligible to receive a healthy breakfast and lunch at school at no charge to your household each day of the 2026-2027 school year. No further action is required of you. Your child(ren) will be able to participate in these meal programs without having to pay a fee or submit an application.

If you have any further questions, please contact us at 845-291-0100 ext 10642.

Sincerely,

Katherine Lynch MPH, RD, CDN
Orange Ulster BOCES
School Food Service Director
4 Harriman Drive
Goshen, NY 10924
845-291-0100 ext.10642
Fax: 845-291-0916
katherine.lynch@ouboces.org

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- (2) fax: (833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or
- (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

September Menu 2026

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Breakfast Cereal or Muffin Cheese Stick Fruit and Milk Choice 	Breakfast Cereal or Bagel Hard Boiled Egg Fruit and Milk Choice 1 No School IEP Day for Staff	Breakfast Cereal or Breakfast Sandwich Fruit and Milk Choice 2 First Day of School! Chicken Patty on WW Bun Carrot sticks with Ranch Fruit and Milk Choice	Breakfast Cereal or Bagel Smoothie Fruit and Milk Choice 3 Hamburger or Cheeseburger on WW Bun French Fries Choice of Fruit and Milk	Breakfast Cereal with Yogurt Fruit and Milk Choice 4 Mozzarella Sticks with Marinara Sauce, Breadstick, Broccoli Fruit and Milk Choice
7 No School Labor Day	8 Hot Dog on WW Bun Baked Beans Chips Fruit and Milk Choice	9 General Tso's Chicken, Choice of Fried or Plain Rice and Broccoli Fortune Cookie Fruit and Milk Choice	10 BRUNCH FOR LUNCH! French Toast Sticks Tater Tots, Sausage Patty Fruit and Milk Choice	11 Choice of Pepperoni or Plain Pizza Garden Salad Fruit and Milk Choice
14 Grilled Cheese on WW Bread with Tomato Soup Fruit and Milk Choice	15 Chicken Nachos with, Rice & Beans, Sour Cream, Salsa, Guac, Cheese Fruit and Milk Choice	16 Big BOCES Burger (bacon, lettuce, tomato, & cheese) Potato Wedges & Pickles, Fruit and Milk Choice	17 Chicken Wrap (Buffalo, Ranch or Caesar dressing) Coleslaw Fruit and Milk Choice	18 Trio Taster (Onion Rings, Mozz sticks, Popcorn Chicken) Marinara, Garlic Knot, Garden Salad Fruit and Milk Choice
21 No School Yom Kippur	22 Build your own Beef Tacos, Rice & Beans, Sour Cream, Salsa, Guac, Cheese, Fruit and Milk Choice	23 Mac & Cheese Roasted Zucchini Fruit and Milk Choice	24 BRUNCH FOR LUNCH! French Toast Sticks Tater Tots, Sausage Patty Fruit and Milk Choice	25 Pizza Choice of Pepperoni or Plain Pizza Bagel Garden Salad Fruit and Milk Choice
28 Chicken Patty with WW Bun, Carrot Sticks with Ranch Dressing Fruit and Milk Choice	29 Chicken & Cheese Quesadilla, Rice & Beans, Salsa & Sour Cream Fruit and Milk Choice	30 Big BOCES Burger (bacon, lettuce, tomato, & cheese), Coleslaw & Pickles, Fruit and Milk Choice	Through participation in the NSLP Community Eligibility Program, meals are offered daily at NO CHARGE. ALL MEALS ARE SERVED AND PREPARED IN LUNCH MEAL PATTERNS for the 2025-26 school year. Menu is subject to change. This institution is an Equal Opportunity Provider	

Daily Offerings

Low fat 1% milk, skim milk, fat free chocolate milk.
Seasonal fresh fruit, mixed cupped fruit,
choice of vegetables, garden salad daily.

Daily Alternate Lunch

Chef's Salad, Parfait with Graham Crackers,
Uncrustables, Peanut Butter & Jelly or Deli Sandwich.

HARVEST of the month: NYS Apples



This month we're featuring New York State apples! New York is one of the nation's top apple-producing states, growing delicious varieties such as Gala, Honeycrisp, Empire, McIntosh, and Cortland. Apples are a great source of fiber and vitamin C, which help support a healthy digestive system and a strong immune system. Did you know apples are made up of about 25% air, which is why they float? Whether you enjoy them fresh, sliced with a meal, or baked into a favorite recipe, New York apples are a crisp, delicious way to enjoy the flavors of the season!



Welcome Back to School!



Welcome to a new school year! Orange-Ulster BOCES Food Service Department is proud to participate in the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP), which allows us to provide breakfast and lunch at no cost to all enrolled students each school day.

The Child Nutrition Programs are the nation's largest nutrition assistance programs for children, serving millions of healthy meals every day. The meals we serve follow USDA meal pattern requirements to ensure students receive balanced, nutritious meals that support healthy growth and development.

At Orange-Ulster BOCES, we take pride in offering a variety of fresh fruits and vegetables, whole grains, lean proteins, and low-fat dairy. We also incorporate New York State-grown products when possible, supporting local agriculture while providing students with fresh, high-quality ingredients.

A nutritious breakfast is the best way to start the day. Each morning, students are offered a breakfast that includes a protein, whole grains, fruit, and milk to help fuel their bodies, improve concentration, and prepare their minds for learning.

Good nutrition is essential for nourishing young minds. Healthy meals provide the energy students need to learn, grow, stay active, and achieve their best both in and out of the classroom.

We look forward to serving your children healthy, delicious meals throughout the school year!



NYS items served:

Milk
Apples (whole, slices, sauce)
Carrots
Broccoli
Yogurt
String Cheese
Garlic Knots

From Scratch items:

Beef Taco Coleslaw
Rice and Beans Chili
Mac & Cheese Guacamole
Quesadilla Grilled Cheese



September Puree Menu 2026

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Breakfast Oatmeal Fruit and Milk Choice 	Breakfast Muffin & Yogurt Fruit and Milk Choice	Breakfast Waffles & Yogurt Fruit and Milk Choice	Breakfast Muffin and Smoothie Fruit and Milk Choice	Breakfast Oatmeal Fruit and Milk Choice
1 No School Supt. Conference Day	2 First Day of School! Chicken Patty on WW Bun Carrots Fruit and Milk Choice	3 Burger WW Bun Sweet Potatoes Fruit and Milk Choice	4 Pizza Broccoli Fruit and Milk Choice	
7 No School Labor Day	8 Hot Dog on WW Bun Baked Beans Fruit and Milk Choice	9 General Tso's Chicken Mashed Potatoes and Broccoli Fruit and Milk Choice	10 BRUNCH FOR LUNCH! French Toast Sticks Sweet Potatoes, Sausage Fruit and Milk Choice	11 Pizza Broccoli Fruit and Milk Choice
14 Grilled Cheese on WW Bread with Tomato Soup Fruit and Milk Choice	15 Chicken Soft Tacos, Refried Beans, Sour Cream, Guac, Cheese, Fruit and Milk Choice	16 Burger WW Bun Sweet Potatoes Fruit and Milk Choice	17 Chicken Wrap (Buffalo, Ranch or Caesar dressing) Peas Fruit and Milk Choice	18 Pizza Broccoli Fruit and Milk Choice
21 No School Yom Kippur	22 Beef Soft Tacos, Refried Beans, Sour Cream, Guac, Cheese, Fruit and Milk Choice	23 Mac & Cheese Green Beans Fruit and Milk Choice	24 BRUNCH FOR LUNCH! French Toast Sticks Sweet Potatoes, Sausage Fruit and Milk Choice	25 Pizza Broccoli Fruit and Milk Choice
28 Chicken Patty with WW Bun Carrots Fruit and Milk Choice	29 Chicken & Cheese Quesadilla, Refried Beans, Guac, & Sour Cream Fruit and Milk Choice	30 Burger WW Bun Sweet Potatoes Fruit and Milk Choice	Through participation in the NSLP Community Eligibility Program, meals are offered daily at NO CHARGE. ALL MEALS ARE SERVED AND PREPARED IN LUNCH MEAL PATTERNS for the 2026-27 school year. Menu is subject to change. This institution is an Equal Opportunity Provider	

Daily Offerings

Low fat 1% milk, skim milk, fat free chocolate milk,
Seasonal Pureed fruit.

Daily Alternate Lunch

Parfait with Graham Crackers Puree, Uncrustables, or Deli
Sandwich.

HARVEST

of the month:
NYS Apples



This month we're featuring New York State apples! New York is one of the nation's top apple-producing states, growing delicious varieties such as Gala, Honeycrisp, Empire, McIntosh, and Cortland. Apples are a great source of fiber and vitamin C, which help support a healthy digestive system and a strong immune system. Did you know apples are made up of about 25% air, which is why they float? Whether you enjoy them fresh, sliced with a meal, or baked into a favorite recipe, New York apples are a crisp, delicious way to enjoy the flavors of the season!



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A nutritious breakfast is the best way to start the day. Each morning, students are offered a breakfast that includes a protein, whole grains, fruit, and milk to help fuel their bodies, improve concentration, and prepare their minds for learning.

Good nutrition is essential for nourishing young minds. Healthy meals provide the energy students need to learn, grow, stay active, and achieve their best both in and out of the classroom.

We look forward to serving your children healthy, delicious meals throughout the school year!



NYS items served:

Milk

Apples (whole, slices, sauce)

Carrots

Broccoli

Yogurt

String Cheese

Garlic Knots

From Scratch items:

Beef Taco

Rice and Beans

Mac & Cheese

Quesadilla

Coleslaw

Chili

Fried Rice

Guacamole

Grilled Cheese



MEAL SERVICES TO CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

Dear Parent/Guardian:

The National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and School Breakfast Program (SBP) aim to provide all participating children, regardless of background, with the nutritious meals they need to be healthy. This includes ensuring children with disabilities have an equal opportunity to participate in and benefit from the NSLP and SBP.

Federal regulations require schools and institutions to serve meals at no extra charge to those children whose disability restricts their diet in such a way that they cannot fully participate in the food service program without some modification to the foods offered or the scheduled menu. If you believe your child needs substitutions because of a disability, please get in touch with us for further information. You must request meal modifications from the school and provide the school with a medical statement from a State licensed healthcare professional or a Registered Dietitian. This medical statement must contain but is not limited to the following:

- Information about the child's physical or mental impairment that is sufficient to allow the school to understand how it restricts the child's diet,
- An explanation of what must be done to accommodate the child's special dietary need,
- The food or foods to be omitted and recommended alternatives, in the case of a modified meal

If you have questions regarding the need for meal modifications, contact Katherine Lynch at 845-291-0100 ext 10642 for further information.

Nondiscrimination Statement:

In accordance with federal civil rights law and USDA civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its agencies, offices, employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the state or local agency that administers the program or contact USDA through the Telecommunications Relay Service at 711 (voice and TTY). Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at How to File a Program Discrimination Complaint and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

1. **mail:**
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Mail Stop 9410
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or
2. **fax:**
(202) 690-7442; or
3. **email:**
program.intake@usda.gov

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We are delighted to inform you that students in grades 1-5 at Middlehope and Pine Island Elementary Schools have been awarded a grant to take part in the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP) for the 2026-27 school year. Primary School students in grades 1 – 5 have received a grant to participate in the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP) for the 2026-27 school year.

The goals of this grant program are to:

- Create healthier school environments by offering healthy choices.
- Expand the variety of fruits and vegetables children experience.
- Increase children's fruit and vegetable consumption.
- Make a difference in children's diets to impact their current and future health.

Beginning the week of September 14th, students in grades 1-5 will be offered a fresh fruit or vegetable to try twice weekly. FFVP snacks will generally be served outside your child's regularly scheduled lunch time.

Participating classrooms will be provided with supplemental nutrition education material to increase students' knowledge of the health benefits of eating fresh fruits and vegetables. The FFVP is an excellent way to supplement other wellness programs in our schools that promote health, nutrition, and physical activity.

You can support your student's efforts to increase their fruit and vegetable consumption in many ways. For example:

- Take your student grocery shopping. Let your student select a new fruit or veggie to try.
- Give your student options! Let your student choose which veggie to serve at dinner.
- Keep fruits and vegetables where your student can see them, such as on the counter.
- Take your student to a local farmers' market and discover fruits and vegetables in season.
- Be a role model! Let your child see you regularly eating fruits and veggies.

If you have questions, please contact the district food service office at foodservices@ouboces.org, or visit ouboces.org. Additional resource information is available at USDA Food and Nutrition Service U.S. Department of Agriculture, <https://www.fns.usda.gov/ffvp>

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Orange-Ulster BOCES cares deeply about the success of your child in school and we believe that making sure your child has the food they need to learn is important.

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) is an available benefit to support your family to afford food right now. SNAP provides monthly grocery benefits to buy food at places you normally shop like the grocery store. Monthly benefits can be up to \$939 for a family of four.

To qualify for SNAP, your household's income has to be below a certain level, generally the same amount as free or reduced price school meals. To see if you're eligible for SNAP, visit mRelief.com or text **Food** to **74544**. Applying for and receiving SNAP will have no immigration consequences for those who apply or their families.

SNAP also supports our school and community! Receiving SNAP helps our school receive funding for education programming, school nutrition, internet access, school libraries, and helps more students receive meals at no cost both in-school and out-of-school. To learn more and apply for SNAP visit:

[SNAP Eligibility Tool - Hunger Solutions New York](#)

Estimados Padres/Cuidadores,

Orange-Ulster BOCES nos preocupamos/me preocupo profundamente por el éxito de su hijo en la escuela y nosotros creemos/creo que es importante asegurarse de que su hijo tenga los alimentos que necesita para aprender.

El Programa de Asistencia Nutricional Suplementaria (SNAP) es un beneficio disponible para ayudar a su familia a comprar alimentos en este momento. SNAP brinda beneficios mensuales de alimentos para comprar comida en lugares donde normalmente compra, como la tienda de comestibles. Los beneficios mensuales pueden ser de hasta \$939 para una familia de cuatro. Para calificar para SNAP, los ingresos de su hogar deben estar por debajo de cierto nivel, generalmente la misma cantidad que las comidas escolares gratuitas o a precio reducido. Incluso si no es elegible para solicitar SNAP, sus hijos pueden calificar y usted puede presentar la solicitud en su nombre. Para ver si usted o sus hijos son elegibles para SNAP, visite mRelief.com o textee **Comida** al **74544**. Solicitar y recibir SNAP no tendrá consecuencias migratorias para quienes lo soliciten o sus familias.

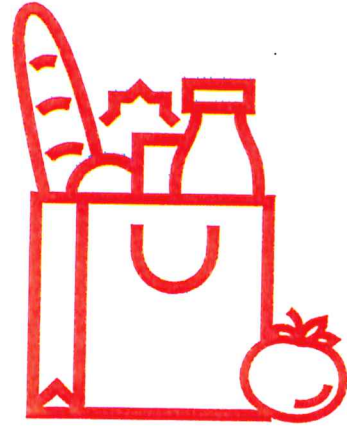
¡SNAP también apoya a nuestra escuela y comunidad! Recibir SNAP ayuda a nuestra escuela a obtener fondos para programas educativos, nutrición escolar, acceso a Internet, bibliotecas escolares y ayuda a que más estudiantes reciban comidas sin costo tanto dentro como fuera de la escuela. Para obtener más información y solicitar SNAP, visite:

[SNAP Eligibility Tool - Hunger Solutions New York](#)

Thank you/ Gracias,

Katherine Lynch, MPH, RD, CDN
School Food Service Director

SNAP helps families buy food.



SNAP provides monthly benefits to buy food at grocery stores and farmers markets. SNAP helps families stretch their food budget so kids get the nutrition they need to learn and grow.

With SNAP:

- Your family can buy more food at the grocery store
- Your school gets more funding that benefits students

Visit SNAPHelpNY.org to see if you may be eligible!

Answer just a few questions. In less than five minutes, you can see if you may be eligible and learn how to apply for SNAP. We can even help you complete and submit your application. It is free and confidential.

You can apply for SNAP online at myBenefits.ny.gov.



Scan to see if you may be eligible for SNAP!



HungerSolutionsNY.org

*7/2025. This material was funded, in part, by the USDA's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program – SNAP.
Funded by Mother Cabrini Health Foundation and New York Health Foundation.*

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.



United States Department of Agriculture

AND JUSTICE FOR ALL



In accordance with Federal law and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin (including English proficiency), religion, sex, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs)

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Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or
email:
program.intake@usda.gov

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

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correo:
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
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Lauren Miller
Kelley O'Neill
Pilar Rocha

Assistant Principals

Suzanne Arrington
Caitlin Connelly
Lauren Maggio
Lydia Woodard

Internet-Enabled Device Policy

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We are writing to remind you about an important change in our school policy regarding internet-enabled devices, including smartphones, tablets, and other personal devices. Beginning **September 3, 2025**, Orange-Ulster BOCES implemented New York State's new distraction-free schools policy as mandated by Governor Kathy Hochul at all locations.

This policy helps our students to focus more fully on learning and classroom instruction, develop stronger face-to-face social connections, reduce anxiety and distractions related to social media, and improve their overall school experience.

Key Policy Points

- **Bell-to-Bell Restriction:** No unsanctioned use of smartphones and other internet-enabled personal devices on school grounds in K-12 schools for the entire school day (from "bell to bell"), including classroom time and other settings like lunch and study hall periods. ***Internet enabled devices include but are not limited to smartphones, smartwatches, personal gaming devices, etc.***
- **Safe Storage:** Students are required to store their devices off and away during the school day.
- **Emergency Access:** Parents are being provided with office contact numbers to contact their children during the day when necessary.

Visual Reminders Throughout Our Schools

You will notice visual reminders posted throughout our school buildings to support our students in following the policy. These friendly reminders include:

- **"No Cell Bell to Bell"** - Reinforcing that devices should be stored from the start of the school day until dismissal.
- **"Off and Away, That's the Way"** - A simple reminder that devices should be turned off and stored away during school hours.

These positive messages help create a consistent, supportive environment as our school community adjusted to this important change.

Parent-Student Communication During School Hours

We understand that maintaining communication with your child is important. **Effective September 3, 2025**, if you need to contact your student during school hours for any reason, please use the school office numbers listed below:

SCHOOL OFFICE CONTACT INFORMATION

Program/Location	Office Number	Office Hours	Administrator
Liberty Elementary Program & IDT Elementary Program / 53 Gibson Rd, Goshen	845-291-0200 x 8	8:00 am – 4:00 pm	Meghan Gildea
Raymond C. Cramer Program / 53 Gibson Rd, Goshen	845-291-0200 x 6	8:00 am – 4:00 pm	Kelley O'Neill / Caitlin Connelly
STRIVE / 53 Gibson Rd, Goshen	845-291-0200 x 5	8:00 am – 4:00 pm	Jodie Maassen
Academy @ Arden Hill Middle School & High School, IDT Secondary Program / 4 Harriman Drive, Goshen	845-291-0200 x 2	7:30 am – 3:30 pm	Cynthia Brescia
Marguerite A Flood Middle School & High School, RESTART / 227 Main Street, Goshen	845-291-0200 x 4	7:30 am – 3:30 pm	Jennifer Lepore
John A. Flannery Middle School & High School Program, SPARC Middle School / 4 Harriman Drive, Goshen	845-291-0200 x 3	7:30 am – 3:30 pm	Barbara Gasperetti
Chester Academy Satellite / 64 Hambletonian Dr, Chester	845-469-2231 x 3701	7:30 am – 3:30 am	Marissa Carlton
Including Communities Program / 129 West Main Street, Suite 2, Goshen	845-291-0200 x 5	8:00 am – 4:00 pm	Jodie Maassen
Middlehope Elementary & SPARC Elementary / 62 Overlook Drive, Newburgh	845-291-0200 x 7	8:00 am – 4:00 pm	Meghan Gildea / Lydia Woodard
CONTINUED next Page			

Program/Location	Office Number	Office Hours	Administrator
Minisink Middle School & High School / 2320 Route 6, Slate Hill	845-355-5815	7:30 am – 3:30 pm	Pilar Rocha
Otisville Elementary School / 2525 Mount hope Rd, Otisville	845-355-5815	7:30 am – 3:30 pm	Pilar Rocha
Pakanasink Elementary School / 1953 State Route 302, Circleville	845-291-0200 x 10850	8:00 am – 4:00 pm	Meghan Gildea / Suzanne Arrington
Pine Island Elementary & Newcomer Program (Elementary) / 20 School House Rd, Pine Island	845-291-0200 x 9	7:30 am – 3:30 pm	Marissa Carlton
Port Jervis Hamilton Bicentennial Elementary School / 929 Rt 209, Cuddebackville	845-672-0939	8:00 am – 4:00 pm	Lauren Miller
Port Jervis Middle School / 10 Route 209, Port Jervis, NY 12771	845-672-0939	8:00 am – 4:00 pm	Lauren Miller

For Student Emergencies

All school offices are staffed during school hours and can immediately reach any student when necessary. Office staff will ensure your child receives important messages promptly and safely.

Thank you for your partnership as we create distraction-free learning environments where all students can thrive.

Sincerely,

James Higgins

Dr. James Higgins
Director of Special and Alternative Education

ORANGE- ULSTER BOCES 2026-2027 Student Calendar

JULY 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

AUGUST 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

20

SEPTEMBER 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

21

OCTOBER 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

17

NOVEMBER 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

17

DECEMBER 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

September	
1	Supt. Conference Day
2	First Day of School
7	Labor Day
21	Yom Kippur
October	
9	Early Dismissal Drill
12	Columbus Day
November	
3	Supt. Conference Day
11	Veteran's Day
25-27	Thanksgiving Recess
December	
24-31	Winter Recess
January	
1	New Year's Day
18	Martin Luther King Day
26-29	Regents Exams
February	
15-19	Winter Recess
March	
26-31	Spring Recess
April	
1-2	Spring Recess
22	Passover
May	
31	Memorial Day
June	
15-17	Regents Exams
18	Juneteenth (observed)
21-25	Regents Exams
25	Last Day of School

△	Early Dismissal Drill
□	Conference Day (No School for Students)
○	School Holiday
■	Regents

185 Days (including conference days)

Revised: June 10, 2026

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JANUARY 2027						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

15

FEBRUARY 2027						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

19

MARCH 2027						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

19

APRIL 2027						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

20

MAY 2027						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

18

JUNE 2027						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			