



OC PS ORANGE
TECHNICAL COLLEGE

Changing Lives Through Education For 85 Years

— Est. 1933 —

For students. **Not profit.**

Quick Links

- K-12 CTE Catalog
- Course Schedule
- ACE Locations
- Student Resources
- Financial Aid
- OTC Campuses

Welcome to Orange Technical College!



Originally named the Orlando Vocational School, OTC opened it's doors in 1933 [Learn More](#)



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**Cool Stuff
CTE Taking Place
Everyday**

Greetings!

Believe it or not, after 7 months, my wife Sandi and I are pretty much moved back into the house and loving every bit of the remodel. The pain and the angst of the process are all but forgotten each time we walk into the new kitchen or bathroom and smile.

We have spent the past few days "Marie Kondo'ing" our stuff. If you don't know who she is, and you have a bunch of stuff that really doesn't "bring you joy" anymore, I would recommend looking her up and watching a couple shows ☺. We have gotten rid of literally truckloads of things we have had laying around the house for 20 years and have never used or even looked at for that matter. I actually had a bag of phones going back to my first flip phone all the way through a Samsung slider and beyond-LOL. Somehow we haven't missed any of it at all.

That being said, I can't believe we are entering the final quarter of another school year. If someone had told me 32 years ago that I would still be in education in 2019 I would have just laughed, and yet, here it is.

I am sure when the first "vocational" school opened in Orange County 85 years ago, no one could have imagined what we would become today, and even more, what we will become in the next 5 years as we move through Vision 2022 and beyond.

Every journey has a starting point, and the rest all depends on the steps we take along the way. When Sandi and I started talking about our kitchen remodel last year, we had no idea it would end up involving the entire house, nor did we realize that we would end up with the amazing home that we now have.

We absolutely had a plan, but as we moved forward, that plan evolved and changed as we gained new information. One thing that didn't change was our purpose of creating the best house we could create within the budget, time, building restraints and other items that we faced along the way. Sandi and I are really happy with what the final product is and we feel more at home than we did before.



OCPS thanks Dr. Phillips Charities for their continued support.



OCPS thanks 4Rivers Smokehouse for their continued support!



OTC thanks our community partners!



11th Annual Auto Show!



Chair Jacobs talks OCPS

So it will be over the next few years here in OCPS. We will keep evolving, and keep moving forward. Change is coming, but as we take each step and as we gain new information, we will continue to adapt and adjust, and hopefully, like Sandi and me, we will look at the new **CTE** that we have created and we will feel more at home than we do now and we will be proud of the work that we have done together to make OCPS **CTE** the best in the nation at **C**hanging Lives **T**hrough **E**ducation for our students, for our community and for us!

On another note entirely, I wanted to share that one of our local Representatives, Carlos Smith, took time to visit us recently at our Mid Florida Campus. He spoke kindly of what we do in OCPS during my recent visit to Tallahassee and said that he would like to visit one of our campuses. True to his word, Representative Smith joined School Board member Johanna Lopez, Senior Director Alex Heidelberg, Assistant Director Felicia Boyd, and me, for two hours recently.

We educated him on our students, our staff, our goals and mission, as well as our funding concerns. He took it all in and was truly impressed and supportive of what he saw. I thank him for taking time to learn about us at a much deeper level than most do. We must continue educating those who make the decisions, so that, like Representative Smith, they have a good understanding of what we do.

We can't take it for granted that everyone knows what kind of impact we are making in **CTE**, we have to take proactive steps to ensure that they do.



Thank you for being a part of the **CTE** Family! Mike.

Dr. Michael Armbruster
Associate Superintendent
Career & Technical Education
Orange County Public Schools





OTC shows out for
#OCPSGoes2College

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WFTV Channel 9: Orange County Students Recreate Old Eatonville Using Virtual Reality



Jamie Holmes from WFTV Channel 9 stopped by the Launch Site at Orange Technical College - Mid Florida Campus this morning to talk the 'Zora Project' with students and instructors. This collaborative project brings a young Zora Neale Hurston to life in virtual reality, as she explores the recreated Robert Hungerford Normal & Industrial School.

CTE in the Community



OTC Senior Directors Visit State Capital to Talk CTE with Representatives

Great to see OTC senior directors meeting with local representatives like Carlos Guillerm Smith, Representative Anna V. Eskamani and State Representative Kamia Brown to share the benefits of career and technical education for all students! [Read More](#)



OTC Hosts SkillsUSA Regional Competitions Across Campuses

We've been having a blast hosting regional SkillsUSA Florida competitions across the OTC campuses this week. SkillsUSA is a partnership of students, teachers, and industry working together to ensure America has a skilled workforce. [Read More](#)



OTC Brings in Hundred of Graduating Seniors for Special Program Fair

OCPS high school seniors and family members flocked to the Launch Site at the Orange Technical College - Mid Florida Campus recently for the 2nd Annual OTC Program Fair! [Read more.](#)

FCAN: Key Takeaways from "Tech Express: Building Stackable Credentials With CTE"



FCAN recently wrapped up CTE Month by examining a unique collaboration that allows students to potentially earn college credit from their technical education program. Recently, Kathy McDonald, FCAN's Assistant Director for Network Partnerships, hosted a webinar that spotlighted the innovative Tech Express program alongside guest presenters Lisa Bliss, Tech Express Advisor with Valencia College, and Andrew Jenkins, Senior Director for the Orange Technical College - Orlando Campus. [Read More](#)

For Students. Not Profit.



EducationNext: For CTE Success, Employer Involvement is Key

What does it mean for students to be "career ready"? It should mean they're prepared to enter the workforce with the knowledge and skills they need to thrive, ideally in fields that pay enough to support a family. But too often career-preparation programs fail to live up to their name.

[Read more](#)



DailyTrib: Career and Technical Education Building Framework for Future Education

When Marble Falls High School junior Cole Schmidt and his classmates tackle projects for their construction trades class, they aren't just building something for a grade; they're building the framework for a well-paid and fulfilling career after high school or college. [Read more.](#)



OTC Blog: How to Choose the Industry Certification Program for You

It's a question people get asked a lot and that many people don't always have an answer to: "What do you want to do with your life?" Ideally, the career you choose will line up with your interests, help you work towards your goals in life, and present ample opportunities for you to grow. [Read More](#)



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