

Orange County Public Schools 2023-24 Research Agenda

Updated December 11, 2023

Orange County Public Schools (OCPS) is located in Central Florida and is the eighth largest district in the nation. OCPS leads over 200,000 students to success with the support of families and the community. The district’s Research department continues to seek partnerships with various entities and encourages rigorous research projects that match the district’s priorities.

The table below displays the OCPS major research topics during the 2023-24 school year aligned to the following [OCPS 2025 Strategic Plan](#) objectives. Researchers who are interested in conducting projects aligned to these topics should consult the [Research department’s website](#) for information about the research application process.

Research Topics	Strategic Objectives					
	High Expectations for Student Learning	Support of Student Resiliency	Dedicated and High-Quality Team	Positive Climate and Safe Environment	Engaged and Invested Community	Efficient Operations
Successful strategies and practices to narrow the achievement gap , specifically in English Language Arts and Mathematics	✓					
Literacy (especially for students in secondary who struggle with reading and writing and students in VPK-Grade 2)	✓					
Strategies to improve student resiliency		✓				
The long-term impact of COVID on academic achievement, overall and by subgroup	✓					
Best practices to improve school climate	✓			✓		
Promoting a sense of belonging for both adults and students		✓	✓	✓		
Employee satisfaction and recruitment and retention of employees , especially for low- performing schools	✓		✓	✓		
Effectiveness of professional development opportunities			✓			

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	High Expectations for Student Learning	Support of Student Resiliency	Dedicated and High-Quality Team	Positive Climate and Safe Environment	Engaged and Invested Community	Efficient Operations
Teacher effectiveness in improving student achievement	✓		✓			
Interventions and supports for mental health as part of student resiliency		✓		✓		
Elementary and middle school acceleration	✓					
Dual language proficiency/acquisition strategies	✓					
Early childhood (PreK, VPK) and school readiness	✓					
Initiatives that focus on access and opportunity for all students	✓					
Dropout prevention and graduation promotion	✓			✓	✓	
Academic Return on Investment (A-ROI) for ESSER-funded programs	✓				✓	

For additional information about OCPS, please visit the [district’s website](#) or view the [OCPS Pocket Guide](#).