

TOUCH Program Permission Slip for 2023-2024

Dear parents,

The churches of the Orleans area, under the auspices of the Orleans Area Ministerial Association, would like to invite your child to participate in a released-time program we call “TOUCH”, which stands for “Transforming Others Under Christ’s Hand.” It is a program offered to Elementary-school children, providing religious and moral teaching based on the Bible. This hour-long program meets once a month at one of four Orleans area churches that are within minutes of the school (Orleans Wesleyan Church, Orleans Christian Church, Orleans United Methodist Church, and Orleans First Baptist Church). The children are released from school (this is allowed by established Indiana state law, which can be reviewed at <https://www.rtce.org/StateofIndiana.html>). Students are transported by a privately contracted school bus to one of the above-mentioned churches. This bus is driven by a properly licensed school bus driver who is recognized by the school. Various area ministers do the teaching, and various members of area churches act as chaperones.

If you would like to have your child participate in the TOUCH program, please sign the bottom of this form, and send it back to the school office right away so your child can be included. If you have any questions, please contact one of the churches that participate in the Orleans Area Ministerial Association.

We thank the Orleans Community School, Superintendent Jim Ellis, Principals Daniel Wolford and Joni Lawyer, and the great teachers of the OCS for working with us on this endeavor and allowing the children this opportunity. They in no way endorse or organize this program, but their cooperation is greatly appreciated.

_____ Yes, I would like for my child/ward, _____ to attend the TOUCH program this school year, 2023-24. I understand he/she is being taken by bus to various churches in the Orleans area for the purposes of religious education once a month.

Parent/guardian’s signature

Date