

Elizabeth Board of Education, Elizabeth, NJ

March 2023

One child, one teacher, one book and one pen can change the world. Malala Yousafzai

Elizabeth Public Schools Celebrate Reading and Dr. Seuss

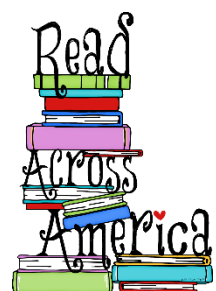
Elizabeth Public Schools joined school districts throughout the United States in celebrating Read Across America, an annual reading motivation and awareness program that calls for every child in every community to celebrate reading on March 2, the birthday of beloved children's author Dr. Seuss.

Elizabeth Board of Education members, Elizabeth Public Schools central administration members, Elizabeth community members, and local and regional elected officials visited schools throughout the district to read to students as part of Elizabeth Public Schools' Read Across America activities.



For more photos,
please visit
www.epsnj.org





Winfield Scott School No. 2



Students in Grades Pre-K 3 celebrated Read Across America with a week filled with lots of books and lots of fun. Students enjoyed dress up days such as Crazy Sock Day, Wacky Wednesday, Crazy Hair Day, Read My Shirt Day and of course, everyone's favorite, Book Character Day. Pre-K to 3rd grade classes were visited by Elizabeth Police Department members, district supervisors, and directors. Team members and visitors were also invited to a special breakfast hosted by School 2 Social Committee. School 2 NJHS middle school students also visited classes to read to the younger scholars. To end the week, students and teachers participated in a culminating activity by dressing up as their favorite book character and sharing their book with their fellow classmates.

Dr. Albert Einstein Academy School No. 29



Students participated in many fun events to celebrate Read Across America Week. The week kicked off with students and team members wearing Dr. Seuss themed shirts and attire, followed by a birthday party for Dr. Seuss! With the help of the amazing PTO and donations that were made, teachers and students were gifted healthy treats throughout the week. The events wrapped up with a Book Character Parade throughout the halls where many students and team members participated in displaying some of their favorite books and characters. Students were also treated to many special guest readers throughout the week. Middle school students authored original poems and read them aloud during morning announcements for our *Poetry Slam*. In addition, bulletin boards were made displaying the teachers and team members favorite books as well as a "Can You Guess The Title" contest!

Abraham Lincoln School No. 14



The school community celebrated their annual Character Parade. Students, dressed as their favorite literary characters, were greeted by the parade Grand Marshal, former Principal of School 14 and now J. Christian Bollwage Academy's Principal, John Byrne. During the parade, Elizabeth Fire Department's Engine 8 and Ladder 3, officers from the Elizabeth Police Department greeted the students as they marched by.

Also, *Read Across America Student Ambassadors* engaged in a letter writing campaign inviting distinguished leaders from the community to visit and read to them as well as share inspirational messages about the role of reading in their lives. Students researched various leaders throughout the community. Among one of the leaders from the community was Congressman Rob Menendez.

Grade 8 scholars had lots of questions about his role as a member of the U.S. House of Representatives. The Congressman also visited one of the bilingual kindergarten classes and brought a gift of several interesting books from the National Library of Congress that will be shared throughout school classes.



Woodrow Wilson School No. 19



The love for reading was seen throughout the school. On March 2, students brought in their favorite books to share with their class for a *Reading Show and Tell*. On March 3, students and staff dressed as their favorite storybook characters and also received a visit from the EEA's Cat in the Hat! To wrap up Read Across America Week, on March 6, the school celebrated its diverse readers by exploring many multicultural stories. Also, classroom 1-005 had a special guest reader, Board Member Jerry Jacobs, who read an amazing story about Chessie Dentley.

Victor Mravlag School No. 21



Students and team members had an opportunity to wear crazy hats, socks, and hair all while being treated to a host of guest readers. The younger scholars participated in flashlight reading. It was a fun week that everyone truly enjoyed!

Madison Monroe School No. 16



Children enjoyed Read Across America festivities which included: reading Dr. Seuss books, retelling stories, counting, drawing, and coloring. The week concluded with a surprise visit from the Cat in the Hat. Pre-K students of Mrs. Hughes & Mrs. Dixon, Mrs. Priolo, and Mrs. Gilliam's kindergarten classes showed the Cat in the Hat their love for reading. Students also received a pencil from Cat in the Hat and took pictures.

Nicholas Murray Butler School No. 23



Ms. Doherty's 3rd grade students were asked to choose their favorite Dr. Seuss Book. They created covers from the book that they selected and had to write a paragraph on why they chose that book. They also took a survey to see which was their class favorite of all the Dr. Seuss books.

The winner was *Green Eggs and Ham*! Ms. Pagan-Elias' Kindergarten class was visited by guest reader, Assistant Superintendent for Schools Mrs. Finch-Johnson for crazy shirt day at School No. 23. Students listened to one of Dr. Seuss' noted titles, *One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish*. Earlier in the week, during their lunch, Ms. D's Kindergarten students were treated to a visit from Thing One and Thing Two on Crazy Hat Day.

George Washington Academy of Science & Engineering School No. 1



The students participated in a variety of educationally rich activities this month starting with Read Across America Week. Students kicked off the month by being invited to participate in inspirational days and activities encouraging reading, ranging from Crazy Sock Day and Twin Day to Dress for Success. Parents and community members were invited to join in on the fun, being invited both to come in for Read Across America Week and for a parent workshop on social media and youth development. On March 10, George Washington Academy celebrated Social Emotional Day. Individual classrooms engaged in social emotional lessons and challenges, including lessons on hygiene and how to regulate emotions. As part of a Panorama intervention, fourth graders focused on learning how things in the environment can bring comfort with Comfort Toy Day.



Nicholas S. LaCorte - Peterstown School No. 3

Extinct dinosaurs, extraterrestrials, machinists, photographers and an orthographer joined forces with reading superheroes such as the Cat in The Hat, Spiderman, and Moana during Read Across America activities.

The annual celebration of all things literacy -- books, words, characters, and imagination -- started with students having guest readers, including eighth-grade leaders going to the second and third-grade classrooms for story time.

Activities also included a scavenger hunt for items related to Dr. Seuss, the inspiration for Read Across America, as well as a middle school "book tasting" to satisfy the voracious appetites for fiction. The grandest celebration was held on March 2 with a storybook character parade for elementary students as well as a vocabulary word parade for grades six through eight. The halls were overflowing with students showing their appreciation for words and books, whether it was dressing up as characters from their favorite novels or representing words with costumes, including a blow-up dinosaur for "extinct" and an ecosystem that grew from denim and paper flowers.



Mabel G. Holmes School No. 5 Annex



It's Read Across America week.

Mabel G. Holmes Annex was so eager and pleased to welcome.

Mayor Bollwage and Board Member Mrs. Barbosa.

The teachers heard them read and so did our VP.
as the students listened tentatively with patience and ease.

Dr. Suess stories ranged from A through Z

Mayor Bollwage and Mrs. Barbosa read them with such a breeze.

Benjamin Franklin School No. 13

Elizabeth Board of Education Member Stan Neron and Elizabeth City Council Member Carlos Torres visited several class and had the opportunity to read to the students.



William F. Halloran School No. 22

Students and team members celebrated Dr. Seuss's Birthday during Read Across America Week. They enjoyed dressing like an idiom, like their favorite book character, and making Oobleck. Most of all, students enjoyed having special guest readers visit classrooms to read their favorite Dr. Seuss books!



Abraham Lincoln School No. 14 Annex



Mrs. Cardona & Mrs. Castanheira's kindergarten scholars enjoyed kick starting Literacy Week at their school's Literacy Night. There was so much to do such as making character crafts, reading bookmarks, and snapping photos in the Dr Seuss Photobooth. This was all *Seussically Magnificent*. A special thanks to all who organized this event from the kinder scholars and families.

Toussaint L'Ouverture - Marquis de Lafayette School No. 6

From school spirit day to silly socks and crazy hair day, the spirit of Dr. Seuss was alive during the annual Read Across America week-long celebration. Each day began with a Dr. Seuss quote of the day, followed by prize time for the students. All this love for reading culminated in the D.E.A.R. time with the eager A.V.I.D. students, guest readers, and School No. 6's annual Family Reading Night led by the school's Cat in the Hat herself. READ ON!

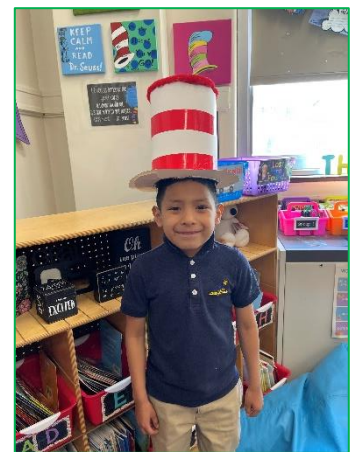


Joseph Battin School No. 4 Annex

Union County Superintendent Daryl Palmieri visited kindergarten students in Mrs. Pozyc's class. They had a blast listening to Mr. Palmieri read one of the Dr. Seuss classics, *One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish*. A special thanks to Mr. Palmieri for taking the time out of his busy schedule to read to the students.



John Marshall School No. 20



Students had a fun filled Read Across America Week with ongoing celebrations. The week began with Crazy Sock Day and Crazy Hat Day. This was followed by students drawing and writing about "Oh the Places" they will go in the future. Even the Cat in the Hat stopped by for a visit. The entire school joined in the festivities to celebrate the works of renowned author Theodor Seuss Geisel and the love of reading.

Dr. Orlando Edreira Academy School No. 26 @ 31

The Elizabeth Police Department visited School No. 26 and read to classes for Read Across America.



Harmony Power Awards



Madison-Monroe School No. 16 students from kindergarten through eighth grade and team members were presented Harmony Power Awards by Harmony Power Sensei John Mirrione with the mission of standing up for bullying and human equality. After discussing and celebrating the week of the Great Kindness Challenge in January, various students and team members received the Harmony Power Award because of their efforts. Sensi Mirrione delivered a powerful and inspirational message about the importance of kindness and goodness and how they both have a significant importance in one's life. School Principal Mr. DiFonzo, Vice Principal Ms. Gaeta, and School Social Worker Mr. Luciano, congratulated students and team members for their continued efforts in bringing harmony and kindness to Madison-Monroe School No. 16 and their community.

J. Christian Bollwage Finance Academy celebrates Black History Month

Black History Month at **J. Christian Bollwage Finance Academy** culminated in a two day Black History Convention that was held on February 27 and 28. *The Gallery of Heroes*, as it was aptly titled, commemorated and honored African Americans who shaped history.

The idea was initiated by the 11th grade student government under the guidance of their guidance counselor and advisor, Mrs. Safiyyah Howell, and 11th grade student Ibn Baker. The event was a total success! The hallways were decorated and the boardroom was transformed into a gallery of artwork and displays as the 11th graders performed presentations for the entire school!



One Hundredth Day of School

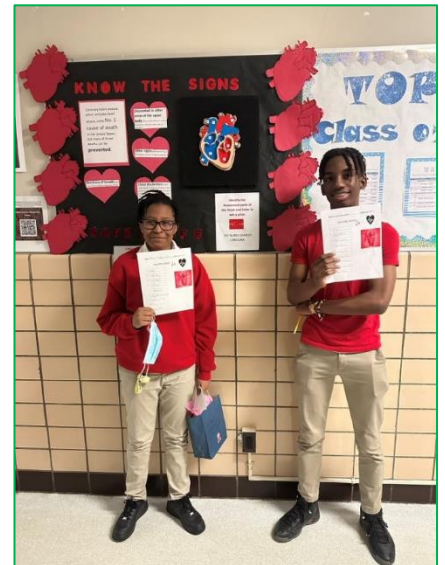


There are hundreds of ways to celebrate the one hundredth day of school! The fifth-grade students at **Madison-Monroe School No. 16** were presented with a STEM challenge.

Using a combination of popsicle sticks and toothpicks, but only 100 items in all, they were tasked with creating a recognizable object. Results included a lamp, radio, architectural models of familiar landmarks, including Ferris wheels, and structures with moving parts. What a great way to celebrate while sharing engineering and artistic skills!

Hamilton Annex Honors American Heart Month

Heart disease is the No. 1 cause of death in the United States. Unfortunately, many of us have been personally affected by this disease. **Alexander Hamilton Preparatory Academy Annex** helped raise awareness for this disease by posting information about the common signs and symptoms of a heart attack, knowing these signs can save a life. Students participated by wearing a red shirt every Friday in February and donating \$1.00 towards the American Heart Association. Hamilton Academy also hosted a small contest, called the *The Heart Contest*. The students were asked to identify all the parts of the heart, referencing a heart model. There were five winners with all correct answers. After a Jeopardy style open ended questioning session, teachers were able to determine the winners of the contest. Mytjona Bond and Jayden Pearson, came out on top with a good knowledge of the heart and its functions. Congratulations again to the winners!



Donald Stewart School No. 51 Inspires Others to Build Character



March 9 is Social Emotional Learning Day and the theme of the fourth annual International SEL Day was Uplifting Hearts, Connecting Minds. **Donald Stewart ECC School No. 51** created a special video to celebrate and support this movement. They hope that the video (link below) will inspire everyone to learn more about Social Emotional Learning and create a kinder and more empathetic global community.

[Character Building Day at Donald Stewart School No. 51](#)

Elmora School No. 12 School Wide Math Bee



On Friday, March 10, **Elmora School No. 12** participated in their first ever schoolwide Math Bee. The first math competition round was held in each individual homeroom from grades Kindergarten – 8th grade. All math homeroom teachers created a fifteen question Kahoot. The top three students who placed on the podium advanced in a friendly competition to the Final Math Bee Championship in the gym on Friday, where a separate math Kahoot was given. The top three students joined the final competition on stage where medals and ribbons were given to award first, second, and third place students. Both Mrs. Duda (fourth grade math teacher) and Mr. Marzano (P.E. teacher) hosted the event and gave out the awards. Teachers and students were so excited that they asked if this can be done again this school year. What a fun and engaging way to make math exciting, yet challenging at the same time!

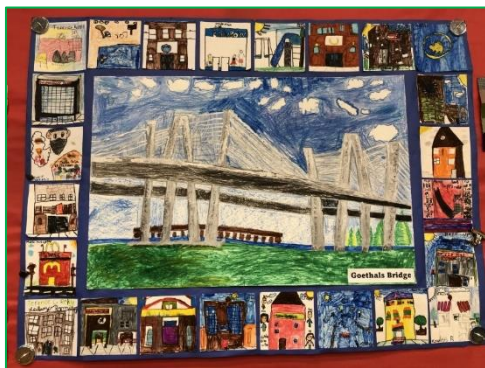


JDA Talent Show

The students at **Jerome Dunn Academy of Mathematics, Technology, and the Arts School No. 9** brought their talents to the stage on Friday, March 10, 2023.

Joy sparked in the auditorium as children danced, recited poems, and played instruments. The overall goal was for students to own who they are and showcase their talent with bravery and confidence.

The parents, teachers, and students in grades K-5 enjoyed the show and the students that participated in the show were so excited and proud of themselves.



African American female artist, Faith Ringgold, Inspires Students

All second-grade students, at **Terence C. Reilly School No. 7** were introduced to the African American female artist, Faith Ringgold, in Ms. Greene's art class through her story telling, quilt making, and biography of her life. Students learned that Faith's passion for quilt making was a family legacy passed down from her enslaved ancestor. Faith's mother, a fashion designer, encouraged Faith to use fabrics around her painting's edges, reinforcing that quilting medium.

Students listened to the story titled *Tar Beach* and learned about Faith's message, which is "how important it is to follow your dreams". Students learned about the places important to the character "Cassie Lightfoot" in her community along with the fun evenings she had on the rooftop with her family and neighbors that they called *Tar Beach*. Students shared some of the places that are either important to them or places they enjoy with their own families visually by illustrating their own paper quilt square. In the story, the George Washington Bridge is a symbol of importance because Cassie's father helped to build the bridge. The class also discussed the bridge close to the school, the Goethals Bridge, and how it connects the City of Elizabeth to the neighboring city of Staten Island, NY. Students not only worked independently on their quilt square, but also together as a whole when drawing and rendering the Goethals bridge.

In 2010, Ms. Greene had the fortunate experience of being able to create an evening event for Reilly students and their families at the Montclair Art Museum. Faith Ringgold appeared live to speak about her work and "Tar Beach" was part of the exhibit. Reilly students had worked on a similar project that year and it was a great honor to meet Faith in person and have her sign personal copies of "Tar Beach". This year in Ms. Greene's fashion design class, Amelia De Los Santos and MaKayla Valentine were extremely interested in designing, sewing, and art, making various costumes and props for all school performance-based events. They not only created some of the costumery for the "Sneak Peak" Lion King show, but also created this amazing sunflower fabric based on "Faith Ringgold's" painting titled: *Sunflower Quilting Bee at Arles*, painted in 1991. This painting shows eight powerful African American women from the past and present displaying a colorful quilt that is a communal symbol of their achievements. From upper left they are Madam Walker, Sojourner Truth, Ida Wells, Fannie Lou Hamer, Harriet Tubman, Rosa Parks, Mary McLeod Bethune, and Ella Baker. A ninth figure, on the lower left, is Willia Marie Simone, a fictional character created by the artist. Vincent van Gogh, well known for his paintings of sunflowers, stands to the right.

Amelia and MaKayla worked hard to replicate the quilt that these famous women in this painting were sewing to be used in the interpretive dance routine that Ms. Miller choreographed for the show.

Game Night



Dr. Orlando Edreira Academy School No. 26 @ 31 Mrs. Pires' Student Government class hosted Game Night on March 9 for the first through fifth graders of Dr. Orlando Edreira Academy. Students and teachers had a grand time playing bingo, volleyball, musical chairs, and a variety of board games. Student Government is comprised of middle school students who planned and organized this event. They were rewarded with seeing all the happy faces on the younger students.

Hamilton Juniors FaceTime with Colleges Around the Country



The New Jersey Association for College Admission Counseling (NJACAC) Regional College Fair was held on Tuesday, March 7, at Kean University, where over 100 colleges/universities were in attendance. Attending a college fair is an important step in the college search process for many reasons: making connections with college representatives, discovering a new institution, and typically shorter travel time than visiting most colleges. **Alexander Hamilton Preparatory Academy's** top 40 Juniors received face time with colleges from around the country and collected brochures and catalogs to continue their quest in college exploration.

School No. 25 Jumps Rope for Heart

The **Sonia Sotomayor School No. 25** community recently participated in the participate in the Jump Rope for Heart Challenge as part of American Heart Association's (AHA) Kids Heart Challenge. The Jump Rope for Heart was a standalone fundraising event and program for the AHA from 1978 to 2017, raising more than \$1.2 billion. While Jump Rope for Heart has evolved into a component of the Kids Heart Challenge, it still has the goals of promoting physical activity, educating students about heart health and the value of community service, and raising money to support cardiovascular research and outreach programs. School No. 25 has been participating in the Kids Heart Challenge for the past five years and has raised over \$1,300 in 2023!



An Exciting Month

Admiral William F. Halsey, Jr. Health and Public Safety Academy has had an exciting month. Students attended three field trips to Kean University, Universal Technical Institute and Northern New Jersey National College Fair at the NJ Convention and Exposition Center.

Halsey Health and Public Safety Academy also wants to acknowledge their Unsung Hero, Sebastian Mateo, for making an outstanding contribution to his school and the community.



Pi Day Celebration



On March 14, **John Marshall School No. 20** had a special guest. Board President Iliana Chevres spoke with kindergarten, second, and fourth grade students. She also had the opportunity to participate in a hands-on mathematics fraction project as part of a Pi Day Celebration.



Music in Our Schools

Frances C. Smith ECC School No. 50 celebrated *Music in Our Schools Month* with music teacher Annice Benamy. Students sang, played instruments, and moved to various styles of music. They also were able to complete the statement “Music Makes Me_____!”



An Experiment with Mechanical Motion- The Construction of Walking Robots!



The STEM Club students of **Alexander Hamilton Preparatory Academy** were ready to experiment with mechanical motion. They were super enthused about constructing walking robots!

Students learned that robots help humans in ways that were previously unimaginable. Today we have robots helping with household chores, functioning as warehouse workers, barista bots and even robonauts! It's amazing the way robots help with surgeries. Robots even defuse bombs. What was interesting about building walking robots was that students could customize them! They could also make their robots walk in reverse. In this way, students took ownership of the robots they built, unleashing their creativity and innovating ability in the process.

Relay for Life

Chris Wragge from CBS Morning News broadcasted live from **Elizabeth High School - Frank J. Cicarell Academy** on Friday, March 10 from 5:00 AM to 7:00 AM to highlight the great student body and a wonderful teacher, Guido Morsella, who has devoted his life to his kids, the school, and family. CBS highlighted the heartwarming story of Mr. Morsella's son Dave, who is bravely battling a rare, life-threatening disease. EHS-FJC hosts one of the largest Relay For Life events in the country benefitting the American Cancer Society.

<https://www.cbsnews.com/newyork/live-updates/bettertogether-class-act-with-chris-wragge-visits-frank-j-cicarell-academy/#post-update-7ff67d49>



Board of Education President Iliana Chevres Visits Schools

Dr. Martin Luther King ECC School No. 52



The Pre-K students and team members had a wonderful time meeting Board President Iliana Chevres.

J. Christian Bollwage Finance Academy



Board President Iliana Chevres visited the Autism program and had the opportunity to observe students in their Art Class. The students were actively engaged in a Black History project. When she walked into the room she was greeted warmly by the students – many of whom remembered her from past experiences. The students happily showed her the project they were working on and shared how much they enjoyed the activity. She also had an opportunity to visit the Life Skills classroom where she could see all the job-related and transitional activities that the students perform daily. These activities include laundry, dishes, popcorn sales, coffee cart, cooking, and cleaning.

Ms. Chevres proceeded to visit a Biology Honors class. She was impressed by how the students collaborated in setting up the lab to extract DNA from a model. Students explained that each triad group received a bag containing different types of material. The students' job was to design a model of DNA.

The Board President also visited a Business Economics class where students were actively completing a table of production and cost data to understand how costs of production affect prices. Ms. Chevres then proceeded to a US History II class. Students parsed through President Woodrow Wilson's Fourteen Point Plan, evaluating its purpose and efficacy. This lesson was meant to fortify students' argument building skills and illustrate how the effects of World War I contributed to later historical developments.



PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION INSCRIPCIONES PARA EL PROGRAMA PRE-ESCOLAR

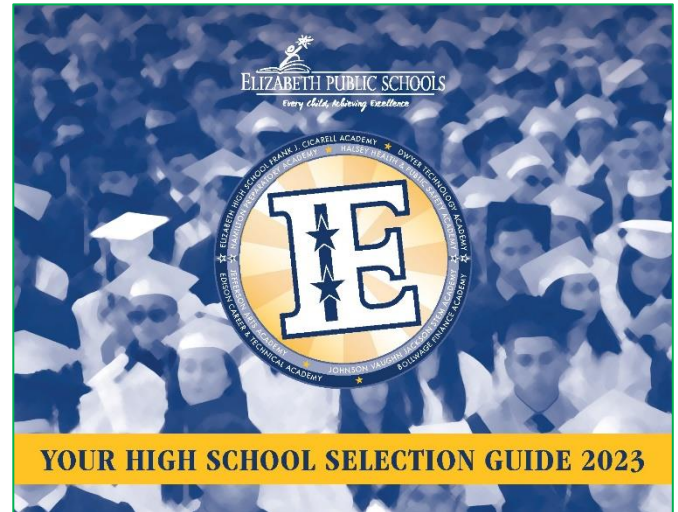
Register February 22, 2023 - March 24, 2023
Inscripciones abiertas del 22 de febrero al 24 de marzo del 2023
908.436.5351 ♦ 908.436.5322



Gifted and Talented Program for Students from Grades Two through Eight



Apply for the award-winning Gifted and Talented Program - February 23 - April 3
Solicite el premiada Programa para Superdotados y Talentosos - 23 de febrero - 3 de abril



YOUR HIGH SCHOOL SELECTION GUIDE 2023

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To ensure timely consideration of your high school selections, registrations must be completed online beginning March 31 through April 20, 2023.
Registration sessions will be held at each high school beginning at 7 pm on the following dates:

Para asegurar que su selección de escuela secundaria sea considerada a tiempo, las matrículas deben ser completadas en nuestra página electrónica comenzando el 31 de marzo hasta el 20 de abril 2023.
Sesiones de información se llevarán a cabo en cada escuela secundaria comenzando a las 7:00 pm en los días siguientes:

Bollinger Finance Academy
Hamilton Preparatory Academy
Haley Health and Public Safety Academy
Dwyer Technology Academy
Edison Career & Technical Academy
Elizabeth High School - Cicarelli Academy
Jefferson Arts Academy
JVI STEM Academy

447 Richmond Street
1003 North Broad Street **
699 South Street **
853 Third Avenue **
425 Glen Avenue **
40 Morell Street
27 Martin Luther King, Jr. Plaza
237 South Broad Street

3/20/2023
3/21/2023
3/22/2023
3/23/2023
3/27/2023
3/28/2023
3/29/2023
3/30/2023

Students will be notified of acceptance by June 2023. * Estudiantes serán notificados de su aceptación en junio 2023.
For more information, please visit www.epsnj.org • Para más información, por favor visite www.epsnj.org

** Not all of the Gifted Academy
sessions are simultaneous
on the same date



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Send us excellent news on the great things happening in your school to Delilah Sousa email: enews@epsnj.org



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