

Olga Hugelmeyer
Superintendent of Schools



Diane Matos-Reis
Principal

Joseph Collins
Vice Principal

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Vice Principal-Annex

August 2023

Dear Parents/Guardians and Students,

We, the entire staff here at **Abraham Lincoln School No. 14**, are honored and elated to welcome all our students and family members to the 2023-2024 school year ***beginning on Friday, September 8th***! Our promise is to provide an innovative and personalized learning environment that ensures that every child achieves excellence. Within a safe, rigorous, and welcoming environment, we believe that every student can and will learn at his optimal level in order to reach his highest educational potential.

Please take the time to visit our district website and the ***Back-to-School link*** at <https://www.epsnj.org/Page/4374> for additional information on returning to school. Many of the important topics addressed in detail on the district website are also provided below for your immediate review:

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL / ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL PROCEDURES

The 2023–2024 school year will begin on Friday, September 8th, 2023. Instruction will be conducted during the hours of 8:20 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. In order to help facilitate both a smooth and orderly mode of transition during the times of arrival and dismissal, please adhere to the following safety procedures:

Students in grades K-5 should *not* report to school before 8:20 a.m. daily. Students must be lined up with their homeroom at the designated entrance (listed in the chart below). Students in grades 6-8 can begin entering the school via the gym/cafeteria entrance (located on Murray Street) at 7:45 a.m.

Important attendance update: any student arriving after 9:40am will be marked absent for the day. Any student dismissed prior to 1:40pm will be marked absent for the day. Students should not enter through the front door before 8:30 am.

As a reminder, **Abraham Lincoln School 14** has an Annex located at **416 Linden Avenue**. The building provides eleven classrooms for second and third grade classes.

Abraham Lincoln School No. 14

Exit 1	Exit 2	Exit 3 Main Entrance: All Bus Students	Exit 4	Exit 6	Exit 8	Gym	Classroom(s): Enter and Exit Through Classroom Doors
K-103	5-301	4-17	1-105	K-110	4-011	6-018	K-7A
K-104	5-302	5-16	1-106	1-108	4-012	6-207	K-10
	5-303	6-101	1-107	1-109	4-013	6-208	K-15
	5-305	7-304			4/5-014	6-306	
		8-102			4/5-009	6-307	
						7-201	
						7-205	
						7-203	
						7-206	
						8-202	
						8-204	
						8-209	
						8-210	
Annex Homerooms located at 416 Linden Avenue: (Main Entrance)							
2A-001	3A-005						
2A-002	3A-006						
2A-003	3A-008						
2A-004	3A-010						
2A-011	3-A009						
2A-012							

***Bus students utilize the main entrance for arrival and dismissal**

(Potential) Bus student homerooms:

K-103

K-104

4-017

5-016

6-101

7-304

8-102

Students in grades Kindergarten-5 will eat breakfast in their classrooms upon arrival at 8:20 a.m. Students in grades 6-8 will be served breakfast before school between 7:50 a.m. – 8:15 a.m. in the cafeteria/gym.

Please be reminded that Abraham Lincoln School No. 14 is a uniform school, which means **uniforms must be worn properly from the first day of school and every day thereafter (further information of uniform policy listed below).**

Please remember it is extremely important that we have **updated phone numbers and addresses** so that we may contact you in the event of an emergency or to discuss your child's progress. Please be sure to notify both the teacher *and* the main office at any time throughout the course of the school year whenever you change an address and/or a phone number. **Correspondence will be relayed through the PowerSchool Parent Portal** and the email address that we have on file. To ensure that you don't miss any important information, please make sure that your PowerSchool Parent Portal information and email are up to date.

Please be reminded that ALL visitors must enter the building through the front door and check in with security. **NO visitor will be allowed to enter the building without proper photo identification.** Parents and visitors may NOT enter the building through any other door before, during, and/or after the school day. Also, to ensure smooth daily operations, appointments are required. Please contact the school to schedule an appointment/meeting/conference. **Also, students cannot be picked up after 2:45 p.m.**

As we begin this year, please remember that this is your school and we highly welcome your involvement. Please continue to show your support of Abraham Lincoln School No. 14 by participating in student activities, attending school events, and supporting our fundraisers. If you can volunteer your time, please reach out to the school. The staff of Abraham Lincoln School No. 14 remains committed to ensuring every child achieves excellence.

EPS SCHOOL CALENDAR

We ask that you guide and support your child's learning by ensuring that he/she attends school daily, arrives on time, and is ready for the day's learning experience.

To review the EPS School Calendar for the 2023–2024 school year, please visit the following link: [SchoolCalendarfor2023-2024SchoolYear.pdf \(epsnj.org\)](https://epsnj.org/SchoolCalendarfor2023-2024SchoolYear.pdf).

POWERSCHOOL PARENT PORTAL INSTRUCTIONS

PowerSchool is an electronic management system that is utilized by the Elizabeth Public Schools in order to collect, store, and maintain pertinent student data and records. The application provides parents with real-time access to information that pertains to a student's schedule, attendance, grades, and academic progress; it also offers a convenient and accommodating way for both parents and teachers to communicate as needed. Therefore, everyone stays connected. Schedules for the upcoming 2023-2024 school year will be available to view on PowerSchool on *Wednesday, August 30th*.

NEW AND RETURNING PARENTS TO EPS

Parents of new students must request a new account in order to input all of the information required to navigate the PowerSchool Parent Portal. Parents of existing students will need to log in, input, and update any changed information that has occurred for their child.

To obtain instructions on how to navigate the PowerSchool Parent Portal, please visit the EPS website at [Student and Parent Sign In \(powerschool.com\)](https://powerschool.com).

If you experience technical difficulties while accessing your child's PowerSchool information, please contact your child's school or visit the EPS website at [Student Support Services / Student Registration \(PreK-12\) \(epsnj.org\)](https://epsnj.org). From there, please click on the ***"PowerSchool Parent Portal Help"*** tab. Please scroll down and click on the school that your child currently attends. You will then be directed to complete an online contact form. After clicking the ***Save*** and ***Done*** buttons at the bottom, your request will be submitted and someone from the school will be in contact with you as soon as possible.

POWERSCHOOL STUDENT PORTAL INSTRUCTIONS

To obtain instructions on how to navigate the PowerSchool Student Portal, please visit the EPS website at [Student and Parent Sign In \(powerschool.com\)](https://powerschool.com).

UNIFORM POLICY

The intended purpose for the EPS dress code is to promote a positive self-image and to enhance school pride amongst our students. Health, safety, and educational well-being are the primary

objectives for the dress code with the goal of fostering an environment that is conducive to discipline as well as to education. School uniforms are expected to be worn on a daily basis.

The uniform and dress code requirements for your child's school are provided on the EPS website at <https://www.epsnj.org/Page/4374>. Please refer to the "***Uniform Policy***" tile and follow the instructions provided.

Parents, we are asking for both your cooperation as well as your support regarding your child's adherence to the uniform policy. Students who do not adhere to the school uniform policy will not be permitted to enter the building on ***Friday, September 8th*** or any school day thereafter. Please do not hesitate to contact the main office if you should have any questions with respect to the uniform policy.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES

For the past few years, our school has operated as a 1:1 technology school; and as a result, all students will continue to utilize a *laptop computer* for their daily classroom instruction. Students should make every effort to take excellent care of their *laptops* throughout the school year, as this is a very special privilege. Our 1:1 technology implementation will continue to ensure that our students attain the competitive standards that are needed to foster both college and career readiness. *All students are required to bring their charged laptops and power cords to school daily.*

NEW ENTRANTS

All new students to the district will receive their laptop during the first week of school.

STAY CONNECTED

Receive School Reminders/Updates via Text Message!

Sign up to receive messages from your child's school and the Elizabeth Public Schools

NEW AND EXISTING PARENT INSTRUCTIONS

It is extremely important that we have the most updated home address and/or phone numbers so that we may contact you in the event of an emergency or to discuss your child's progress. Please be sure to update your contact information by logging into your PowerSchool Parent Portal and filling out the Emergency Information form found under the Forms link throughout the course of the school year should there be a change in either your home address and/or phone number. Open communication between the home and the school is expected and is one of the more pertinent keys to academic success in school.

Our Notification system enables staff members to contact parents through email, text, and through verbal messages recorded on the phone. Through this system, parents are immediately alerted of urgent information, major events, and/or upcoming dates. To ensure that this system will continue to operate in a highly effective manner, it is very important that we have ***the most current and accurate information on file for each and every student.***

To obtain information on how to keep your contact information up to date, please visit the EPS website at <https://www.epsnj.org/Page/4374>. Please refer to the “*Stay Connected*” tile and follow the instructions provided on how to update your information on PowerSchool.

In addition, please consider volunteering your services and supporting the Parent/Teacher Organization (PTO) at your child’s school. The PTO provides many opportunities for families within the school community to get involved and *stay connected*. Please be sure to sign up and learn more about the many resources that are available for your child here within the Elizabeth Public Schools.

DISTRICT / SCHOOL INFORMATION

Please ensure that all of the required documents listed below are reviewed and completed by the first day of school and that all personal information is updated regularly.

- Emergency Information Form
- Notice Regarding Physicals
- Media Release Form
- Student Internet & Network Permission Form with Elizabeth Internet Use Policy
- Acceptable Use for Technology – Electronic Mobile Device Form
- Emergency Connectivity Fund (ECF)
- Lunch Application

In order to obtain access to the required documents that are indicated above, please visit the EPS website at <https://www.epsnj.org/Page/4374>. Please refer to the “*Forms and Applications*” tile and follow the instructions provided.

IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS

The state of New Jersey has mandated that all children born after January 1st, 1997 and enrolled in Grade Six, **will be required to receive a booster dose of the diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis vaccine (Tdap) as well as one dose of meningococcal vaccine.** Documentation that your child has received the required sixth grade immunizations must be turned into the school nurse no later than ***Friday, September 8th, 2023.***

Students entering 6th grade with birthdays on or after ***Friday, September 8th, 2023*** must provide written confirmation from your child’s healthcare provider of the vaccination appointment. This appointment should be within two weeks of your child turning 11 years of age. The immunization record must be submitted immediately following the appointment. The Elizabeth Public School District is compelled by law to ensure that all students receive their required immunizations.

Children who do not meet immunization requirements or do not have documentation of a scheduled appointment within two weeks of turning 11 years of age will be excluded from school beginning the first school day.

TRANSPORTATION

Transportation will be available for the following students:

- Elementary students who live more than 2.0 miles from their school
- High school students who live more than 2.5 miles from their school
- Students whose IEP include transportation services

BACK-TO-SCHOOL NIGHT

*Back to School Night is scheduled for **Tuesday, September 19, 2023, at 6:00pm for the main and 6:30pm for the annex.** Additional information is forthcoming.*

SOCIAL - EMOTIONAL LEARNING

Now more than ever, today's generation of young adults are contending with many unimaginable challenges due to the aftermath of our most recent unprecedented times. In order to ensure that the continuance of positive school climates as well as the healthy development of the whole child progresses, the Elizabeth Public Schools recognize how critically essential social-emotional learning skills are for our students and their successful performance in school, in work, as well as in life; as a result, we will continue to foster social-emotional skills as a daily practice in the classrooms. Creating a safe learning environment where students are able to engage in the core competencies of self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationship skills, and responsible decision-making will help to provide students with the skills required to navigate through those complex challenges in life.

We hope that you will all continue to enjoy the remainder of the summer. Let's continue our shared mission to reaffirm equity, reestablish expectations, and reclaim excellence! We look forward to starting another journey together on ***Friday, September 8th***.

Sincerely,

Diane Matos-Reis
Principal, Abraham Lincoln School #14