

EXCELLENCE NEWS

EVERY CHILD, ACHIEVING EXCELLENCE

Alexander Hamilton Preparatory Academy 100th Year Celebration

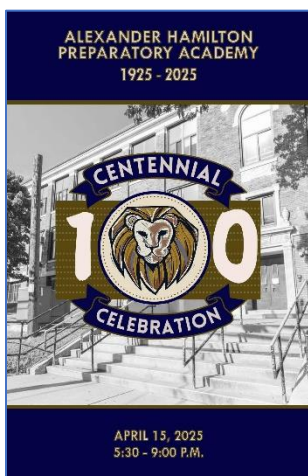
Alexander Hamilton Preparatory Academy welcomed local dignitaries, Elizabeth Board of Education members, Elizabeth Public Schools team members, and past and present members of the Hamilton community to its centennial celebration on April 15. Alexander Hamilton Junior High School No. 2 opened in 1925 and served as a junior high school and middle school before becoming a high school academy in 2008, taking on its current name Alexander Hamilton Preparatory Academy.

The evening began with a ribbon-cutting ceremony, dedicating the Hamilton Preparatory Academy media center as "The Lion's Den", which was joined by City of Elizabeth Mayor J. Christian Bollwage, Elizabeth Board of Education Vice President Maria Z. Carvalho, EBOE Member Rosa E. Moreno Ortega, City of Elizabeth Councilman-at-Large and EPS Chief of Operations Frank Cuesta, and EPS Superintendent of Schools Dr. Olga Hugelmeyer.

The centennial's main event in the auditorium featured student and alumni dance performances, historical skits, a video, and speeches by Principal Mikros, Mayor Bollwage, and other officials, emceed by retired teacher Jill Palumbo. Afterwards, guests enjoyed tours, a selfie station, contributing to a time capsule, historical displays in "The Lion's Den," club information, and refreshments, allowing alumni to reconnect.

The outstanding event was put together by the Alexander Hamilton Centennial Celebration Committee which included Ms. Maria Litos, Ms. Carlie Nielsen, Ms. Galina Brodsky, Ms. Beth Barber, Ms. Amanda Esteves, Ms. Rachel Green, Ms. Katelyn Banks, Ms. Purna Patel, Ms. Deepa Shah.

For more photos, please visit www.epsnj.org



EPS HIGHLIGHTS

- College Fair
- Autism Acceptance
- Elementary
- High School
- News in the Arts

Important Dates:

May 26
Memorial Day
Schools & District
Closed

June 10
Primary Election
Schools Closed

Quick Links:

School District Website



District Social Media



Back To School



100th Year Celebration

For more photos, please visit epsnj.org



High School Students Participate in Annual College Fair

Elizabeth Public Schools welcomed over 130 representatives from several states including universities, colleges, technical institutes, career pathways, government agencies, and the military for a district-wide College Fair on April 8. Juniors from all eight high school academies had the opportunity to explore future options and connect with admissions professionals from various institutions. The culinary students of Thomas A. Edison Career and Technical Academy showcased their talents by serving a delicious brunch to the visiting representatives.



AUTISM ACCEPTANCE MONTH

For more photos, please visit epsnj.org

William F. Halloran School No. 22

School No. 22 recently held its heartwarming annual Autism Acceptance Walk, a vibrant demonstration of inclusivity and understanding. This joyful event united special needs students from School No. 22 and across the district in a celebration of the unique abilities of individuals with autism. Walking together in solidarity, participants raised awareness, shared supportive moments, and even danced, all in the spirit of cultivating a more accepting and supportive world for all.



AUTISM ACCEPTANCE MONTH

For more photos, please visit epsnj.org

Dr. Albert Einstein Academy School No. 29



Special Olympics of Union/Middlesex Counties

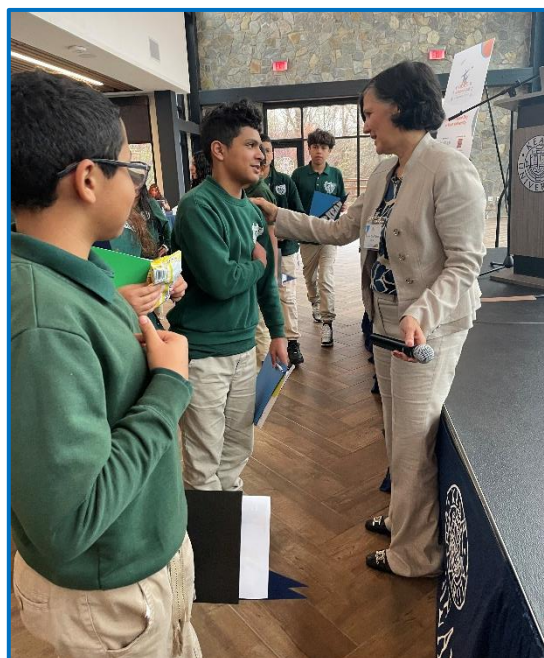
On April 27, students from William F. Halloran School No. 22, Juan Pablo Duarte-Jose Julian Marti School No. 28, Dr. Albert Einstein Academy School No. 29, Admiral William F. Halsey Jr. Health and Public Safety Academy, and EHS Frank J. Cicarell Academy participated in the Special Olympics of Union/Middlesex Counties Track and Field events at Lombardi Field in Old Bridge, NJ. Students participated in numerous events, including multiple meter-length runs and walks, shot put, standing long jump, and ball/javelin throws. Students were supported by countless faculty, staff, and families who attended the event and assisted with the day's activities. A great day was had by all, and students enjoyed participating in and competing at the day's events.



Jerome Dunn Academy of Mathematics, Technology and the Arts School No. 9

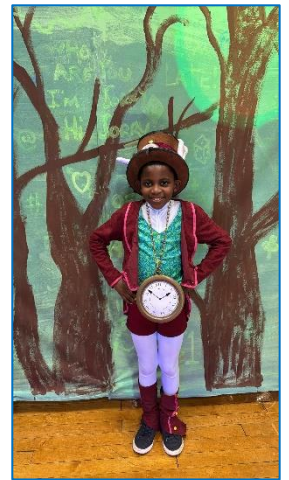
Jerome Dunn Academy's seventh graders recently benefited from an exclusive HISPA Imagine Day, an event thoughtfully designed to illuminate various career pathways and fuel their educational ambitions held at Kean University. Students enthusiastically embraced this experience! Several even took the initiative to personally thank Dr. Ivonne Diaz-Claiss, the visionary Founder of HISPA, for orchestrating such an inspiring occasion.

Reflecting on her experience, student Angelina Garcia exclaimed to Mrs. Guerra, "Today I discovered I like public speaking!" The event further empowered students to identify their individual strengths and explore potential careers that resonate with those talents. Student Shaloon thoughtfully shared, "Helping others makes me happy, I'm more of a listener than a talker, and I always try to be positive. I think I would like to study to be a nurse." Ultimately, this impactful day served as a catalyst, unlocking our scholars' vast career potential!



John Marshall School No. 20

For nearly a decade, since 2015, the students at School No. 20 have flourished through their involvement in Disney's Musicals in Schools program, culminating most recently in a delightful production of *Alice in Wonderland*. This transformative program offers students in grades 3-8 a unique pathway to discover and embrace the arts. Beyond the stage, participants develop invaluable skills in creativity, collaboration, problem-solving, self-confidence, and discipline. The shared experience of bringing a musical to life also forges strong bonds within the John Marshall community, uniting students, parents, teachers, and neighbors. The school community celebrated the success of *Alice in Wonderland* and eagerly awaits the magic of their next production, *Moana*, in the 2025-2026 school year.



Juan Pablo Duarte - José Julián Martí School No. 28

School No. 28 recently celebrated the inauguration of their innovative outdoor classroom with a special ribbon-cutting ceremony. This groundbreaking space marks the first of its kind in the City of Elizabeth, brought to fruition through a generous grant from Sustainable Jersey, funded by the NJEA.

Over the past year, dedicated middle school students collaborated with Mrs. Naomi Montalvo to meticulously develop this unique learning environment. The new outdoor classroom is poised to offer numerous advantages, fostering improved mental health, enhanced physical well-being, and boosted academic performance among students.

In recognition of this significant achievement and the positive influence the outdoor classroom will have on the school community, the Union County Board of Commissioners presented School 28 with a formal resolution. Strategically located adjacent to the school's existing garden, this outdoor learning area will empower teachers to conduct lessons in nature, cultivating a deeper connection with the environment and promoting students' social-emotional growth.



Terence C. Reilly School No. 7



Mr. Kostis' health class recently engaged students in a hands-on learning experience where they crafted their own models of the human mouth. This activity served as a springboard for discussions centered on the critical importance of oral hygiene. The students delved into how consistent daily practices, such as thorough brushing and flossing, play a vital role in preserving a healthy smile and effectively preventing various dental problems.

Nicholas S. Lacorte - Peterstown School No. 3

Eighth-grade students recently delved into the captivating world of silent films for a social studies project centered on the history of the "Roaring Twenties." Their exploration involved researching the unique characteristics of this cinematic era, including the prominent use of exaggerated body language and facial expressions, as well as the complete absence of spoken dialogue.



Following their research, the students enthusiastically took on the roles of filmmakers, recording and editing their own silent movies. The culmination of their efforts was a highly anticipated film festival held just before spring break. Students embraced the occasion, arriving on the school's very own red carpet to view and critique their classmates' creations. The festival celebrated their hard work and creativity with awards presented for originality, humor, and historical accuracy.

Woodrow Wilson School No. 19

Sixth-grade students recently experienced an unforgettable journey to New York City's Metropolitan Museum of Art! This remarkable field trip beautifully complemented their in-class history studies, vividly illustrating ancient civilizations and historical events. Guided by their lessons with Mr. Kostis, the students explored renowned art collections, encountering everything from ancient Egyptian artifacts to Greco-Roman sculptures. This immersive experience provided a fantastic opportunity to link their classroom learning with authentic masterpieces, fostering a deeper appreciation for history, culture, and artistic expression.



Alexander Hamilton Preparatory Academy

Students from the Multicultural Club hosted a schoolwide donation drive for the Mercy House located at 249 Court Street in Elizabeth. The collection consisted of items geared towards babies and mothers in need. Students and staff generously donated many items such as diapers, wipes, baby formula, toys, books, clothing, and houseware items. On April 29, students stayed after school to assist the club with categorizing all the donations. The following day the Mercy House sent a bus to pick up the items. With the help of several students the items were quickly loaded onto the bus. This opportunity demonstrated to all students and staff the importance of working as a team, community service, and genuine compassion towards members in our community regardless of one's background.



GIVING
 **back**

John E. Dwyer Technology Academy



Dwyer Academy recently hosted members of the esteemed New Jersey State Police for an insightful presentation with their senior class. Lieutenant Colonel Domingo de Los Santos, Operations Branch Commander, along with a dedicated group of troopers, participated in the "Different Roads, One Destination" event.

This event fostered meaningful dialogue between the students and the troopers, allowing them to share their varied backgrounds, discuss different routes to joining the State Police, and explore the diverse career opportunities available within the Division. It proved to be a productive and inspiring experience for everyone involved. Dwyer's students had a valuable opportunity to pose questions, gain a deeper understanding of the role of law enforcement in their communities, and appreciate the importance of cultivating positive relationships with the New Jersey State Police.

The academy extends its sincere gratitude to Lieutenant Colonel Domingo De Los Santos, Major Fidiberto Soto, Captain Adam Grossman, Captain Wilson Rosa, Captain Jeffrey Martucci, Lieutenant Freddy Arajao, Lieutenant Anthony Barbiere, Lieutenant Damon Crawford, Sergeant First Class Carlos Mesa, Sergeant First Class Victor Curko, Staff Sergeant Janvier Joselee, Sergeant Mudduser Malik, Trooper I Reynaldo Cruz, Trooper Angela Correia, Trooper Amber Neely, Trooper Oliver Jimenez, Trooper Mathew Burrwell, and Trooper Mohammed Ghous for dedicating their time to connect with the students and ignite inspiration in the next generation.



J. Christian Bollwage Finance Academy

On April 22nd, students from both the J. Christian Bollwage Finance Academy and Elizabeth High School-Frank J. Cicarell Academy joined community leaders and residents in the City of Elizabeth's Earth Day cleanup initiative. Guided by Social Studies teacher Antonio Salce and former Student Representative Vincent Zeferino, the students successfully collected over 20 bags of litter throughout the city. This endeavor provided the students with a rewarding opportunity to contribute to their community. Their efforts were further acknowledged with special recognition and an award plaque presented by the Mayor of the City of Elizabeth, J. Christian Bollwage.



JVJ STEM Academy

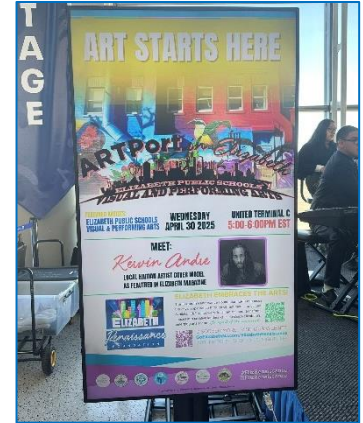
Under the guidance of Mrs. Christodoulou, the eager students of JVJ STEM Academy's Transition Program ventured into the natural sanctuary of the Watchung Reservation, their destination the renowned Trailside Nature & Science Center. The air hummed with the sounds of the forest as they embarked on a captivating, guided nature hike.. The students weren't just walking; they were observing, questioning, and absorbing the wonders of the natural world, gaining invaluable hands-on exposure to the intricate web of life outdoors.



NEWS IN THE ARTS

Elizabeth Color Guard & Strings Ensemble

Elizabeth students once again demonstrated their engagement with the community by attending the grand opening of the newly renovated Elizabeth train station and a vibrant Art Port stage performance at United Terminal C. The festivities celebrated travel, jazz, and local talent, highlighting the dedication of students, teachers, and parents to enriching their community.



You are empowered to achieve excellence!
Send us excellent news on the great things happening in your school to Delilah Sousa email: enews@epsnj.org

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