

EXCELLENCE NEWS

EVERY CHILD, ACHIEVING EXCELLENCE

EPS High Schools Hosted the Annual Homecoming Court Pageant

Elizabeth Public Schools' high schools hosted the annual Homecoming Court Pageant Reception at the Thomas A. Edison Career and Technical Academy gymnasium. The ceremony included the crowning of the king and queen of each participating high school and their public presentation during halftime of the football game between Elizabeth and Union at Williams Field. The Homecoming Court consisted of King Dynasty Chandler and Queen Geyleen Capellan Medina from J. Christian Bollwage Finance Academy, King Hafic Xavier and Queen Na'Riyah Stenbridge from John E. Dwyer Technology Academy, King Alexander Coles and Queen Samiya Bryant from Edison Career and Technical Academy, King Matthew Flechas and Queen Jaylin Hinestroza from Elizabeth High School – Frank J. Cicarell Academy (EHS-FJC), King Waldy Maria Perez and Queen Nicole Santos from Admiral William F. Halsey Jr. Health and Public Safety Academy, King Shemar Morgan and Queen Alexandra Morales from Alexander Hamilton Preparatory Academy, King Jayden Rivera and Queen Leslie Marto from Thomas Jefferson Arts Academy, and King Reynaldo Paulino and Queen Keisha Henriquez from Katherine Johnson, Dorothy Vaughan, Mary Jackson (JVJ) STEM Academy.

Among those in attendance at the ceremony included Elizabeth Board of Education President Iliana Chevres and Board Member Isaías J. Rivera; Elizabeth Public Schools Superintendent Olga Hugelmeyer; Assistant Superintendents Dr. Jennifer Cedeño and Rafael Cortes; Principals John Byrne (Bollwage), John Markowitz (Edison), Michael Cummings (EHS-FJC), Christopher VanVliet (Halsey), George Mikros (Hamilton), Dr. Mona Wanis (Jefferson), and Theodore Panagopoulos (JVJ); Vice Principals Wilnes Jilus and Liliana Dias (Dwyer); Senior Class Advisors Jenise Tapia (Halsey) and Brian Sullivan (Hamilton), and Teacher In Charge-of-Student Activities Tatiana Gallego.



OCTOBER 2023 HIGHLIGHTS

- Homecoming
- Breast Cancer Awareness
- Fire Prevention Week
- Hispanic Heritage
- Week of Respect
- K-12 News
- Upcoming Holidays & Announcements

Important Dates:

November 5 – Daylight Savings
Set time back 1 hour!

November 7– General Election
Schools Closed

November 10 & 11 – NJEA Convention
Schools & District Closed

Quick Links

School District Website



District Social Media



Back To School Resources



Career Opportunities



For more photos and videos, please click on link below:
[EPS High Schools Hosted the Annual Homecoming Court Pageant \(epsnj.org\)](http://epsnj.org)



BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH



Joseph Battin School No. 4



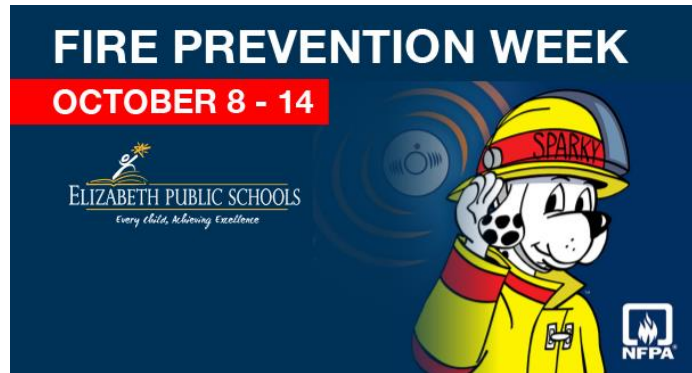
Team Members wore their new shirts in support of Breast Cancer Awareness Month and the survivors so close to their hearts.

Woodrow Wilson School No. 19

Students and team members wore **Pink** in support of Breast Cancer Awareness Month.



FIRE PREVENTION WEEK



Donald Stewart ECC School No. 51

On October 12th, the Elizabeth Fire Department visited the students to discuss the topics of fire prevention, cooking safety, fire alarms and evacuations.

In addition, the firefighters explained the different parts of the fire engine and the gear they wear. Afterwards, the firefighters handed out draw string backpacks to every child with literature on practicing fire safety in the home. Upon, returning to the classroom, the students discussed Firemen as community helpers and their work in the community.



John Marshall School No. 20



On October 11th, Elizabeth Fire Department, Engine 3 and Ladder 2, met with first and second grade students for a lesson and demonstration about fire safety.



HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH



Mabel G. Holmes School No. 5



Hispanic Heritage Month was celebrated with a cultural parade around the school. Parents were invited to cheer on students and staff as they paraded around the school with Hispanic flags and cultural attire. They also celebrated Hispanic Heritage month with a staff breakfast in which team members donated a Hispanic dish for all to enjoy.

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



In celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month, students read about Hispanics that have made an impact in their very own community.

Individuals such as Superintendent Olga Hugelmeyer, Board President Iliana Chevres and Councilman Carlos Torres were highlighted throughout the month over morning announcements. As a culmination, students participated in a parade to celebrate diversity and cultures!



HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

William F. Halloran School No. 22

School No. 22 held their 1st Annual Hispanic Heritage Celebration Parade and Performance. Students and team members dressed in traditional clothing representing 19 nations. Diversity was celebrated throughout the school.



Terence C. Reilly School No. 7

TCR welcomed community members, Iliana Chevres-Elizabeth Board of Education President and Director of Elizabethport Community Center, Catherine Cucalon-Senior Manager Global QMS Programs for Bristol Myers Squibb, Reinaldo Cruz Jr.-Detective I NJ State Police, Sebastian Salazar-Corporate Partnership Gameday Operations Representative & Community Relations Gameday Representative for NY Jets & NY Giants, Esteban Camilo Roldan-Plumbing and Fire Protection Engineer for Arup Engineering, Esperanza Ceballos-Reporter and News Anchor for Univision 41 NY. Over 130 Bilingual/ESL, Spanish speaking, students attended the forum as panelists shared their language and cultural experiences, as well as opportunities and advantages of possessing both languages.



Students connected and engaged with the panelists in such a powerful manner and then proceeded to formulate questions about the panelist's adversities and accomplishments. Thanks to Principal, Mrs. Reguinho, Vice-Principal, Mrs. Milano, Bilingual 2nd grade teacher, Ms. Hernandez and ESL teacher, Ms. Taborda, for the opportunity to make this event possible. School No. 7 hopes this forum serves as a threshold to continue the discussion about equity, inclusion, and collaboration in the Hispanic community.

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

Chessie Dentley Roberts Academy School No. 30



Students in first grade participated in a Wax Museum presentation of notable figures in the Hispanic community. Participating in activities like the wax museum is an excellent way for students and the school community to learn about and celebrate the rich contributions of Hispanic figures to history and culture. This meaningful and educational experience fosters cultural appreciation and awareness. Thank you to the first-grade teachers and the Hispanic Heritage Committee for all their dedication and hard work to make this presentation possible.



Alexander Hamilton Preparatory Academy Annex

Students participated in the Hispanic Heritage Month Assembly. Students represented their respective Hispanic cultures through artwork, dance, and presentations. Guest speaker Fourth Ward Councilman, Carlos Cedeño, spoke on his family's experience from Cuba to the United States. He shared the valuable wisdom from his father who taught him to “estudia, ama, y ayuda” (study, love and help). Students worked diligently to prepare for the assembly and were proud to represent Hispanic cultures that have made a monumental difference in their lives.



HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

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

On October 4, School No. 6 hosted Yanira Z. in the 2nd grade bilingual classroom to celebrate the contribution of Hispanic people. She read the book *Sonia Sotomayor*, and class discussions focused on how Sonia was empowered by her Hispanic heritage. Also, she shared her own story about how as Latin woman, who did not speak English, and became a successful immigration lawyer. Today, in her legal practice, she specializes in immigration law focusing on children's immigration. Students also shared their own stories and traditions. The event ended with the amazing Mexican Mariachi Band in the auditorium, singing and dancing together.



Dr. Albert Einstein Academy School No. 29



School No. 29 excitedly celebrated Hispanic Heritage Month. The entrance to the school was decorated with flags from Latin countries and classrooms participated in various activities, from guest readers to research projects. The hope is that students enjoyed learning about the culture, history, and contributions of the Hispanic and Latino communities.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. ECC School No. 52

During Hispanic Heritage Month, the children enjoyed learning about the lives and contributions of famous Hispanics in the areas of Art and Music. The children made maracas, piñata, and sombreros with recycled materials, and sang and danced to the song to various Spanish music starts. To end the celebrations, Board President Ileana Chevres, attended the Hispanic Heritage Dance Celebration where children danced to La Conga, La Vaca Lola, the Mexican Hat and recited poems: "La Mariposa" and "Ninos". Ms. Chevres joined the La Conga line with the children waving colorful handkerchiefs.



WEEK OF RESPECT



Elmora School No. 12

School No. 12 celebrated *The Week of Respect* with a school-wide peace walk. Guidance Counselor, Mrs. Pedulla and Social Worker, Mrs. Carrero-Iglesia led the peace walk where students and team members dressed in their 1970's inspired peace clothing joined on the playground and waved arms as they sang along to 'Paz y Libertad,' directed by Music Teacher, Dr. Kroik.

One student per homeroom placed a flameless candle on the unity table to represent peace, harmony, and respect within the School No. 12 family. Middle school students Marilyn Eliscat, Merari Padilla, and Melanie Granados read peace poems they composed. The celebration ended with students and staff dancing to 1970's disco song, *Funky Town*.



Woodrow Wilson School No. 19

Students and team members took part in a myriad of positive activities during the Week of Respect. Music teacher, Mr. Darrow, sang songs encouraging students to embrace acts of kindness. Depending on grade level, students were also encouraged to either write how much they valued a specific educator or draw a picture highlighting their sentiments. Additionally, team members entered names of students into the "Bucket of Kindness" that displayed considerate and thoughtful behavior. On October 6th and October 9th, names were selected from the "Bucket of Kindness" consequently, students were awarded a prize!



WEEK OF RESPECT

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

As part of the *Back-to-School Pep Rally*, JDA celebrated the Week of Respect by coming together to participate in activities that promoted positivity, togetherness, and school spirit. In addition, a Fashion Show was held to showcase the scholars wearing the JDA uniform proudly.



Chessie Dentley Robert Academy School No. 30

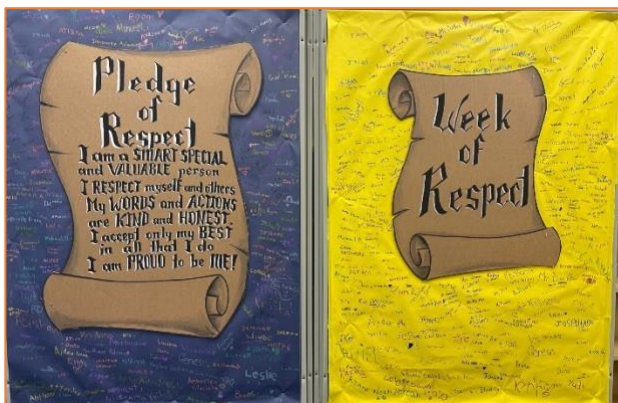
CDRA celebrated Week of Respect with various activities and spirit days. Activities included *Caught in the Web of Respect*, *A Minion Ways to Show Respect*, and *Raise up for Respect and Write on a Balloon*. These activities demonstrated diverse ways to show respect and how it connects with the school, home, and community. Students and staff participated in spirit days wearing blue shirts, yellow shirts, and their favorite hats.



iPrep School No. 8

As schools across the country celebrated the Week of Respect, students participated in numerous activities. Every student also took time to take and sign the Pledge of Respect.

They made a promise to themselves and to each other to be respectful and act respectfully. The scrolls hang prominently in the iLeap Center for all to see and remember the commitment they made.



WEEK OF RESPECT

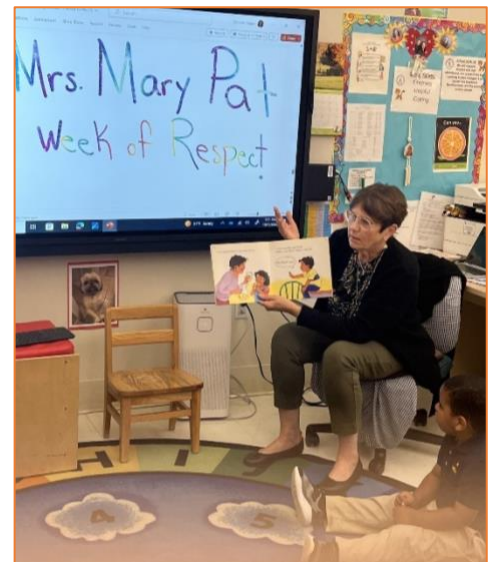


Nicholas M. Butler School No. 23 Annex

The entire community united in a powerful statement against bullying in honor of the Week of Respect. Teachers and students donned the color of unity and compassion, light blue, to “Stomp Out Bullying” once and for all. This collective act of solidarity showcased the school's commitment to creating a safe and respectful environment for all. It sent a resounding message that bullying has no place here, emphasizing the importance of kindness and understanding among students. Together, they stood up against bullying, fostering an atmosphere of respect that will continue to thrive throughout the year.

Frances C. Smith ECC School No. 50

Week of Respect was celebrated by reading books about friendship. Social Worker, MaryPat LaVecchia, visited each classroom and read the students' books about the importance of being a good friend.



Benjamin Franklin School No. 13

The annual *Respect Walk* took place on October 5th. All students paraded around Brophy Field and placed hands with what respect meant to them on the “All Hands-on Deck for Respect” school banner. This will serve as a reminder during the school year to respect others, their school, their community, and themselves.



WEEK OF RESPECT

Abraham Lincoln School No. 14



Students in Ms. Gonzalez's fourth grade class participated in "Week of Respect" by creating a friendship chain with School Counselor, Ms. Ortega and School Social Worker, Mrs. Santucci.

Nicholas S. LaCorte-Peterstown School No. 3

Students and team members hosted the Week of Respect for all including each other, the environment, and the community. Guidance Counselor, Michelle Zuber, and Social Worker, Dinorah Mejia, helped craft memorable moments to symbolize various aspects of respect such as wearing clothes inside/out to show that words hurt more on the inside than on the outside. On Wednesday, third-grade students took to the sidewalks to highlight their talents in chalk drawing and writing so that the community could see how much they support the school's core values of *Teamwork, Acceptance, Trustworthiness and Effort*. Additionally, students were given the chance to wear a color-of-the-day to show their respect: Monday was red for anti-bullying; green was Tuesday for the environment and Friday was orange. Tiger Tate, the school's mascot, was especially thrilled to see cubs from all grade levels showing their school spirit and respect for all.



WEEK OF RESPECT

Madison-Monroe School No. 16



The mission of the Week of Respect is to promote respect, acceptance, and inclusion for all through awareness and activities throughout the week. Students participated in this year's Super Mario theme respect week. On Monday students wore red and blue and even a mustache of their choice for "Let's Go! Be Who You Are!" on Tuesday was "Power Up Against Bullying," Wednesday "Kindness is Invisible," Thursday "Put the Lid on Bullying," and on Friday was "We Are in the Same Team." Mr. Luciano, School Social Worker, and Mrs. Cabrera, School Guidance Counselor, also visited various classrooms and discussed the importance of being kind and respecting others. Students also had a chance to win various Super Mario theme prizes by answering the morning trivia question of the day and picking up the various Mario theme activities sheets that Mr. Luciano, School Social Worker, and Mrs. Cabrera, School Guidance Counselor, provided via the week of respect tables.

Juan Pablo Duarte-José Julián Martí School No. 28

Activities were underway from the week of October 2nd through the 6th. On October 4th, students *rocked their socks* for *Don't Mix with the Wrong Crowd Day*. Students and team members wore mismatched socks to represent not mixing with the wrong crowd. Featured are Ms. Gaines and her 2nd grade students, and Child Study Team Members, Ms. Melissa Barto and Dr. Susane Dardeir.



K-12 NEWS

Dr. Orlando Edreira Academy School No. 26 @ 31

Third grade ABL class practiced letter writing this month. The best way to do this was to write letters to their principal, Mr. Teitelbaum. Students wanted to find the best way to thank him for all his hard work and dedication to make their school the best learning environment for them. School No. 26 is grateful to have a principal as caring and attentive as Mr. Teitelbaum is. Miss Norek's class would like to wish all Elizabeth principals a Happy National Principal's Month!



Thomas Jefferson Arts Academy

October 2nd was National Custodian Day. TJAA is very thankful for the entire amazing custodial team for all their hard work and dedication everyday to keep the school safe and clean for all students and team members.



K-12 NEWS

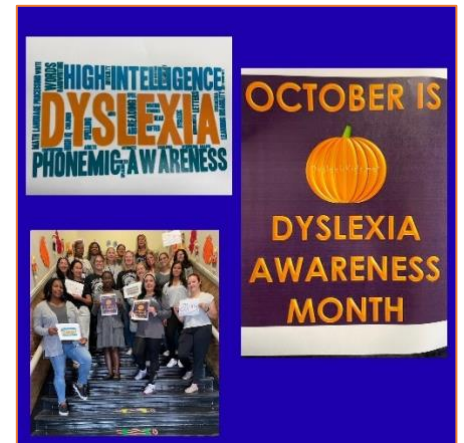
J. Christian Bollwage Finance Academy



A workshop titled "Learning to Manage Change & Transitions" was held for parents. The interactive workshop was facilitated by Blanca Brahn from Brahn Career Educational Consulting Services in both English & Spanish. Parents shared their personal experiences and learned healthy coping techniques to make transitions less disruptive for themselves and their children. The workshop fostered a respectful & healthy collaboration among students, staff and families. Kudos to Jill Aller, the guidance counselor, for organizing this successful event!

Mabel G. Holmes School No. 5 Annex

The dedicated team members showed their support for Dyslexia Awareness by wearing striking silver attire. Their commitment to raising awareness and understanding of dyslexia is both inspiring and commendable. This vibrant display of silver throughout the schools served as a powerful reminder the importance of inclusivity and the value of supporting those with dyslexia in their educational journey. School No 5 Annex truly fosters a nurturing environment for all students.



Nicholas M. Butler School No. 23

Students in grades 6, 7, and 8 participated in an assembly during which Detective Greene from the Union County Prosecutor's Office addressed important topics. The middle school students thoroughly enjoyed the discussion on cyberbullying, kindness, and responsible social media usage, finding it both informative and inspiring. Detective Greene's engaging style and relatable examples made the topic relevant and accessible to the students.



Winfield Scott School No. 2



Fifth grade student, Kemeryn Dorcelly, has not missed a day of school since kindergarten. The school recognized Kemeryn's five years of perfect attendance at the September student of the month ceremony. Kemeryn was given a plaque in honor of her commitment and dedication to education.

George Washington Academy of Science & Engineering School No. 1

School No. 1 had a great success with their second annual: Fathers Take Your Child to School Day Walk. This initiative was an effort to engage fathers and/or father figures in their child's education. We had a great turnout with all the families in the community.



K-12 NEWS



Dr. Antonia Pantoja School No. 27

The future of engineering can be found in Ms. Hanafy's fifth grade Science class. Students applied the engineering design process to build a balloon-powered car. They also worked in teams and were encouraged to share ideas on how to improve their balloon-powered car.

The fifth graders now have a better understanding of how engineers work together to design cars and make adjustments to the technology that powers them.

Alexander Hamilton Preparatory Academy

As a result of having several students reach out to her for assistance in acquiring a necktie, a vital part of their school uniform, one of Alexander Hamilton Preparatory Academy's ELA teachers, Mrs. Zimmerman, decided to take it to the streets and put out a request to her community via Facebook. In response, she has received over 100 ties to date with more promised in the near future. People donating the ties stated they were happy to know that the ties would go to good use and wished the students well in their academic pursuits.



Admiral William F. Halsey, Jr. Health & Public Safety Academy

Halsey Bulldogs have had a festive month! Students and staff celebrated Week of Respect, Breast Cancer Awareness, and attended a college fair. Among the various Week of Respect activities, students wore sports jerseys to *Team Up Against Bullying*. AVID students enjoyed attending a college fair at Fairleigh Dickenson University. Halsey Academy will also raise awareness and showing solidarity to those affected by breast cancer, by wearing pink shirts.



UPCOMING HOLIDAYS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

ELIZABETH PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Every child achieving excellence

celebrate

2023

- Nov 11 Veterans Day
- Nov 13 World Kindness Day
- Nov 13-17 American Education Week
- Nov 16 National Parental Involvement Day
- Nov 19-25 National Family Week
- Nov 23 Thanksgiving
- Whole Month Native American Heritage Month
- Whole Month Puerto Rican Heritage Month

in the month of
November

Registration for High School Winter Sports is Open.

Attention, all Winter High School Sports are open for registration. Winter Sports include, Basketball (Boys & Girls), Wrestling (Boys & Girls), Track and Field (Boys & Girls), Swimming (Boys & Girls), Bowling (Boys & Girls) and Cheerleading. You must register using the Rschool platform on the Elizabeth Athletics Website. Go to epsnj.org, click on departments tab and select Athletics. Once on the Athletics page select (team registration & physicals)

Once you have registered your child, you will receive an email in order to make an appointment for the free district provided Physical. The email will take approximately 24 hours to arrive.

Registration for Middle School Winter Sports is Open.

Attention, all Winter Middle School Sports are open for registration. Winter Sports include, Basketball (Boys & Girls), Wrestling (Boys & Girls) and Swimming (Boys & Girls). You must register using the Rschool platform on the Elizabeth Athletics Website. Go to epsnj.org click on departments tab and select Athletics. Once on the Athletics page select (team registration & physicals). Once registered, your child will receive an email to make an appointment district provided Physical. The email will take approximately a week to arrive.

ELIZABETH PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Every child achieving excellence

SCHOOL VIOLENCE AWARENESS WEEK

OCTOBER 16-20

NATIONAL SCHOOL BUS SAFETY WEEK
OCTOBER 16-20

ELIZABETH PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Every child achieving excellence

SCHOOL BUS



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

Elizabeth Board of Education



Iliana Chevres
President



Charlene Bathelus Dorgely
Vice President



Diane Barbosa



Maria Z. Carvalho



Jerry D. Jacobs



Stanley Neron



Rosa E. Moreno Ortega



Stephanie Goncalves Pestana



Isaias J. Rivera