

EPS Partners with Make the Road NJ to Open Student Success Center



Elizabeth Public Schools and Make the Road New Jersey partnered together to launch a Student Success Center at Admiral William F. Halsey, Jr. Health and Public Safety Academy on December 19. The center is the first of its kind in the State of New Jersey.

At the Student Success Center, students will receive one-on-one college application support and assistance with financial aid applications from college ambassadors, trained high school students from throughout the district, and adult support staff. The Student Success Center will also host district-wide college access events.

Among those in attendance were New Jersey State Senator Joseph Cryan; New Jersey Department of Education Chief of Staff and Deputy Commissioner for Executive Services Kellie LeDet; Executive County Superintendent of Union County Daryl Palmieri; 2020 Elizabeth Board of Education President Diane Barbosa, 2020 Board Vice President Jerry Jacobs, 2019 Board President Stephanie Pestana, and Board member Nathalie Hernandez; Superintendent of Schools Olga Hugelmeyer; members of central administration, and administrators from several of the district's high school academies.

EPS, Make the Road NJ Open Student Success Center (cont.)



EPS Stuffs-A-Bus for Holiday Season



The EPS Transportation Department, in partnership with Joseph Battin School No. 4, Toussaint L'Ouverture – Marquis de Lafayette School No. 6, Elmora School No. 12, and Madison – Monroe School No. 16, coordinated a Stuff-A-Bus Toy Drive.

Students and families from each of the four schools brought in toys to donate for the holiday season to children in need and loaded them onto the bus provided by the transportation department. The donations collected during the Stuff-A-Bus event will go to the Precious Jules Childhood Cancer Foundation.

To see the full Stuff-A-Bus photo gallery, please visit www.epsnj.org/stuffabus2019



EPS Students Tour and Create Art at Visual Arts Center of NJ



Elizabeth Public Schools eighth grade students toured the Visual Arts Center of New Jersey in Summit to connect with the arts and observe the works of contemporary local artists while addressing National Core Arts Standards. The visit came as part of a partnership between Elizabeth Public Schools and the museum.

For 85 years, the Arts Center has been recognized as a leading arts institution in the tristate region, serving over 30,000 individuals each year, and has been at the forefront of art education to help instill 21st century learning skills. They have maintained a strong presence in Elizabeth Public Schools for over 13 years, primarily through collaboration with Thomas Jefferson Arts Academy. During the 2014-2015 school year, the Art Center expanded their opportunities to include eighth grade students from Elizabeth's PK-8 schools courtesy of a grant offered by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation (WKKF).

The WKKF, founded in 1930 as an independent, private foundation by breakfast cereal innovator and entrepreneur Will Keith Kellogg, is among the largest philanthropic foundations in the United States. Guided by the belief that all children should have an equal opportunity to thrive, WKKF works with communities to create conditions for vulnerable children so they can realize their full potential in school, work and life.

Through the lens of the National Core Arts Standards, the Art Center designed a program to expand the scope of students' interests and skills in the arts in preparation for attending Thomas Jefferson Arts Academy. The positive outcomes from the students' visits to the Art Center have been evident in the improvement of the eighth grade portfolio reviews from Thomas Jefferson Arts Academy.

EPS Students Tour and Create Art at Visual Arts Center of NJ (cont.)

In order to select program participants, the 8th grade students took a survey of their background knowledge and interest in the visual arts. Through collaboration with the students and the teachers, students wishing to continue their experience in art post high school, were chosen to attend this field experience.

The students participated in a 3-hour docent led tour during which they were encouraged to view, learn, and share their ideas about the art on display as well create their own art pieces during a hands-on art workshop. The workshop was taught by a teaching artist who gave instruction related to the themes of the Art Center's fall exhibition. During the art workshop, students were introduced to new vocabulary and techniques. Art projects included a variety of media such as paint, pastels, collage, and found objects.

The district art department has observed in the past 12 years that upon completion of the visits, the students' work greatly improved and their critique discussions broadened within the art classroom. Students showcased the new strategies they learned at the Art Center by participating in the Union County Teen Arts Exhibition, experiencing the feeling of achieving excellence in winning awards through competition. They increasingly made connections between art instruction and its relation to everyday life.



EHS Bands, Orchestra Perform Alongside Scotch College Orchestra

Inspiring event at EHS – FJC raises over \$1K for Australian Red Cross



The Elizabeth High School – Frank J. Cicarell Academy Jazz Band, Symphonic Band, and Orchestra played alongside the visiting Scotch College Orchestra in an inspiring performance at the high school on January 14. The free event was a fundraising effort as donations were collected by the EHS – FJC Student Government - Red Cross Committee for the Australian Red Cross to help provide support to those who have suffered hardships from the bushfires in Australia.

Aside from the musical performances, a magic trick performed by one of the Scotch College Orchestra members captivated the crowd. The bands and orchestras received two standing ovations from the capacity crowd. Performances from the event can be seen on the [EHS – FJC facebook page](#).

The poster created by the EHS – FJC Student Government – Red Cross Committee pertaining to the Australian bushfires and their fundraising efforts brought members of Scotch College to tears. More than \$1,260 was raised to provide aid to those affected in Australia. The Scotch College Orchestra guide, who has spent a career providing these types of tours, reportedly stated that EHS-FJC provided the warmest welcome that she has ever witnessed, saying over and over, “Amazing! Amazing!”

To learn more about what the Australian Red Cross is doing and to see regular updates about ways in which donations, such as those from EHS – FJC, are helping disaster relief, please click on the Australian Red Cross logo to the right.



Battin School No. 4 Student Wins Youth Art Month Poster Contest

Joseph Battin School No. 4 student Sofia Moattari's design was selected as the winner of the 2020 State Youth Art Month Poster Design Contest. Her artwork will be placed on the t-shirt awarded to all students whose work was selected for display at the State Youth Art Month High School Reception in Trenton, NJ on March 6.

Moattari will be honored at the reception in Trenton where she will receive an award for her outstanding accomplishment and her winning design will be on display.



Elizabeth Baseball, Halsey JROTC Team up for Toys for Tots



The Elizabeth varsity baseball team and the Admiral William F. Halsey, Jr. Health and Public Safety Academy JROTC cadets teamed up for another successful Toys for Tots campaign during the holiday season. The partnership resulted in over 1000 toys being collected to support children in need.

The primary goal of Marine Toys for Tots, a charity founded in 1991, is to help bring the joy of Christmas and send a message of hope to America's less fortunate children through the gift of a new toy.

School No. 26 Partners with Jazz House Kids to Enhance Music Ed

The Dr. Orlando Edreira Academy School No. 26 band program has partnered with JAZZ HOUSE KiDS for another year, receiving 15 new instruments, including a clarinet, flute, trumpet, trombone, and baritone saxophone.

Over the past two years, JAZZ HOUSE KiDS has provided 65 new instruments to School No. 26 band students along with opportunities to study and perform with local jazz professionals who have visited the school to provide masterclasses.

Now in its 15th year, JAZZ HOUSE KiDS is the only community arts organization in New Jersey exclusively dedicated to educating children through jazz. Through its year-round jazz education and performance programs, JAZZ HOUSE KiDS teaches children ages 8 to 18 to become lifelong learners, communicators and innovators.



Students at School No. 26 Experience Virtual Reality Education



Dr. Orlando Edreira Academy School No. 26, in partnership with VictoryXR, is piloting a program using PICO Goblin Virtual Reality headsets to deliver instruction in the Sciences, History, and Language Arts.

VictoryXR is a world leader in virtual reality (VR) and augmented reality (AR) educational product development. To date, they have created over 240 unique VR & AR experiences spanning more than 50 different learning units.

The Pico Goblin content includes 48 Next Generation Science Standards-aligned curriculum units spanning grades 5-12 and 240 VR experiences such as virtual field trips, VR comic books, 360-degree animations, and movies. Content is developed by an experienced curriculum team and teacher lessons are led by nationally recognized science teacher Wendy Martin. Virtual Reality education allows teachers and students to share a range of experiences that would not otherwise be available to them.

Scenes from the EPS Winter Wonderland



Scenes from the EPS Winter Wonderland (cont.)



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Scenes from the EPS Winter Wonderland (cont.)



To the entire
Elizabeth Public Schools
learning community...

Happy

New

Year!



ELIZABETH PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Every Child, Achieving Excellence

EQUITY

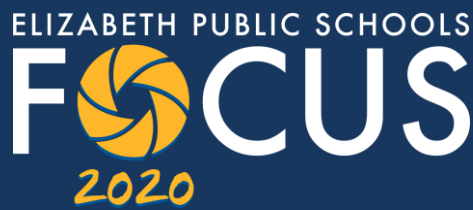
As a nation, America's Promise is that every child, regardless of race, ethnicity or social class, should receive a high quality, academically rich and rigorous public education.

EXPECTATIONS

The concept of high expectations is premised on the philosophical and pedagogical belief that a failure to hold all students to high expectations effectively denies them access to a high quality education, since the educational achievement of students tends to rise or fall in direct relation to the expectations placed upon them.

EXCELLENCE

Educational Excellence is defined as students performing at high levels or where students are making significant gains in academic achievement helping to prepare every child for global competitiveness.



Student

We believe ALL students can learn and achieve at high levels regardless of race, ethnicity, culture, neighborhood, household income or home language.

ALL Means ALL. We will narrow the achievement gaps of students by providing a high quality education to ensure that ALL of our students are college and career ready.

Teacher

We believe teachers make a positive difference in student achievement. Teachers will prepare ALL students for success in college, career, and our technological global society.

We believe that teachers are central in a child's life. Having an effective teacher is the single most important factor in student success.

Leader

We believe that effective leaders demonstrate unwavering commitment to high levels of achievement for ALL students.

Leaders will exemplify and support practices that promote high levels of achievement for ALL students.

Family

We believe that parents and caregivers are both valued partners and active participants in their children's learning. A shared sense of mutual responsibility for learning is the foundation for family involvement to ensure student success.

We are committed to engaging parents and caregivers in their children's education. We will develop a coordinated strategy that enables parents and caregivers to play an active role in building and sustaining family support for their children's learning and academic success.

Team

We believe that every member of the Elizabeth Public Schools Team has a responsibility in producing and supporting high levels of achievement for ALL students.

Every member of the Elizabeth Public Schools team will make a measurable contribution to the success and achievement for ALL students by ensuring equitable distribution of resources throughout the organization.