

Elizabeth Public Schools, Elizabeth, NJ

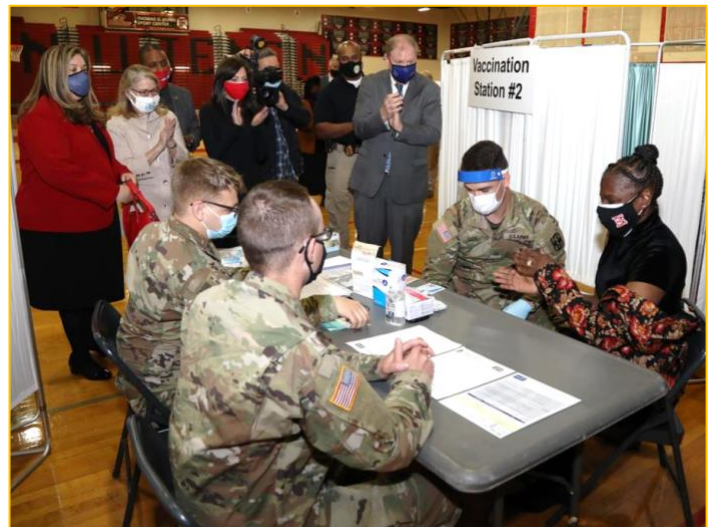
March 2021

"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world." - Nelson Mandela

State of New Jersey First Lady Tammy Snyder Murphy Visits Dunn Sports Center

State of New Jersey First Lady Tammy Snyder Murphy and New Jersey Health Commissioner Judy Persichilli visited the Thomas G. Dunn Sports Center on Wednesday, March 3. The Dunn Sports Center, through an agreement with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), has been converted for use as a COVID-19 Community Vaccination Center. Joining the First Lady and health commissioner in touring the facility were New Jersey Senator Joseph Cryan, Assemblywoman Annette Quijano, Assemblyman Jamel Holley, City of Elizabeth Mayor J. Christian Bollwage, representatives of FEMA and New Jersey's Office of Emergency Management Incident Management Team, and Elizabeth Public Schools Superintendent Olga Hugelmeyer.

Local residents and district employees were lining up to receive their COVID-19 vaccinations. Among those to receive their vaccination at the site during the tour was Elizabeth Public Schools Assistant Superintendent Judy Finch-Johnson.



For more photos, please visit: www.epsnj.org



Reading Your Favorite Story

George Washington Academy of Science & Engineering School No. 1 celebrated reading with fun filled activities. Each day of the week was assigned a theme day that corresponded with some of their favorite stories. Additionally, team members shared stories that helped students explore, connect, and discover their own voices. However, the fun and excitement did not end there. School No. 1 welcomed district guest readers into the classrooms to read to the students. Students enjoyed interacting and learning from the experiences of their guest reader.



Fun Filled Week of Activities

Nicholas S. La Corte Peterstown School No. 3 celebrated Read Across America by participating in several activities.

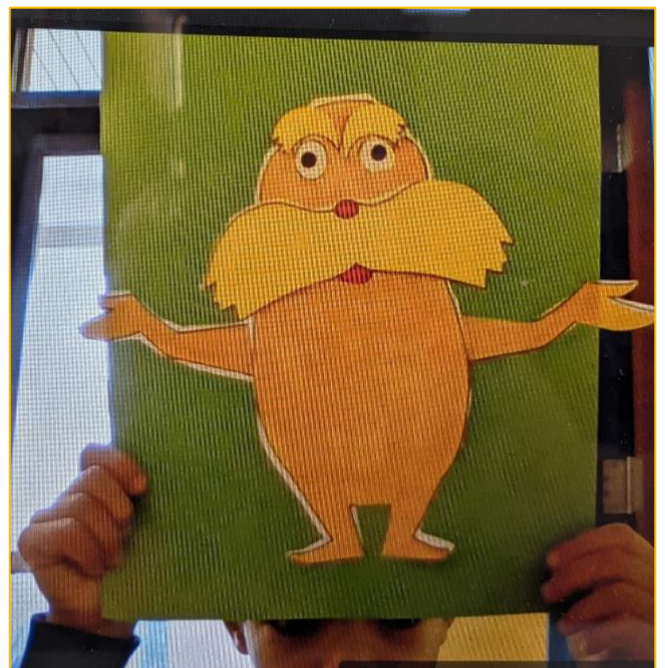
Students enjoyed crazy hat day, crazy sock day, dressing up as their favorite book character, and decorating a hot air balloon that displayed their future goals.

Choose Your Favorite Book Character

The students of **Joseph Battin School No. 4** participated in a variety of activities during Read Across America. Principal Mendes, Vice Principal DeSimone and Supervisor DiDonato read to the students in grades Kindergarten to second.

Ms. Alfano's third grade participated Cultural reads and shared their favorites.

Students in Ms. Mora's Kindergarten and Mrs. Downey's Art classes submitted their own renditions of their favorite book character.





Wear Your Favorite Hat Day

Students at **Mabel G. Holmes School No. 5** celebrated Read Across America by participating in Schoolwide activities, such as, Crazy Hair, Wacky Socks and wearing their Favorite Hat. Individual classes also celebrated by having guest readers and reading books. Students thanked their guest by drawing a picture of the special occasion.

The Love of Reading



From *School Spirit Day* to *Silly Sock Day* and *Wacky Hat Day*, **Toussaint L'Ouverture – Marquis de Lafayette School No. 6** came alive with the spirit of Read Across America with a week-long celebration.

The *Love of Reading* was beating in the heart of School No.6. READ ON!

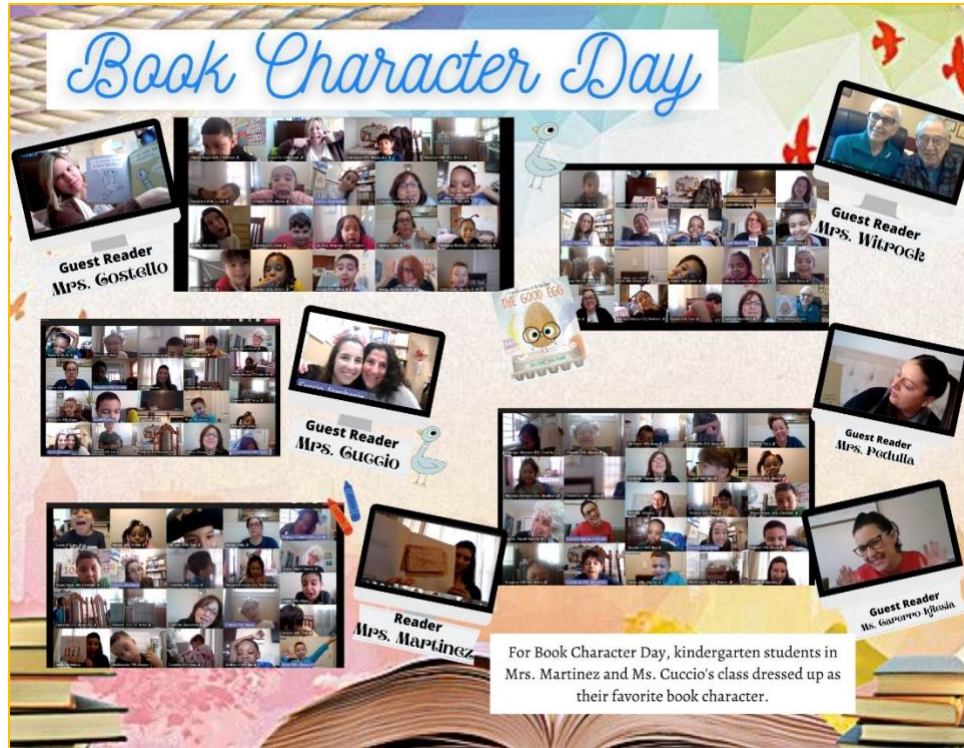
March Reading Challenge

Students from **Terence C. Reilly School No. 7** celebrated Read Across America with many activities. Students were encouraged to do a virtual book review using Flipgrid, QuickTime, iMovie, PowerPoint, or Keynote.

Students were also challenged to complete the March Reading Challenge, which includes activities such as reading a story about a trailblazing woman in honor of Women's History Month, reading a fairytale or folktale from another country, or reading a book about the new season in celebration of the start of spring. Guest Readers, such as local dignitaries and Elizabeth Board of Education members, visited virtually and read to elementary classes.



Book Character Day



Students from **Elmora School No. 12** participated in daily school spirit activities in celebration of Read Across America. Every day was a new theme but one that was truly enjoyed was *Book Character Day* in which students dressed up as a character from their favorite book. Also, many parents and school guests visited their virtual classrooms to read to students and celebrate the love for reading.

Everyone Joins in Reading

Students from **Benjamin Franklin School No. 13** held several activities to celebrate reading. Activities included Mix Up Day where students wore mixed-up clothing such as backward shirts, inside out clothes, mismatched socks, etc. Middle school students also were involved by reading to their younger peers. Principal Stewart also participated in *Readers Become Leaders*, in which she read her favorite story to students in grades K-2.



The Annual Character Parade

The students at **Abraham Lincoln School No. 14** had an incredible time celebrating Read Across America Week!

Each day the school community showcased their creativity as they displayed their imaginative outfits for each fun themed day on Flipgrid!

School No. 14 was happy to continue its tradition of hosting the “Annual Character Parade” (virtually) where students and staff recorded themselves dressed up as literary characters. Additionally, students enjoyed many special guest readers who also shared how proud they are of the students.



Please visit the “Abraham Lincoln School No. 14 Reads Across America” YouTube Page to see videos of special guests, including Mayor Bollwage, Elizabeth Public Schools Board President Jerry Jacobs, Board Commissioners Nathalie Alcaide-Hernandez, Iliana Chevres, Diane Barbosa, and Union County Commissioner Sergio Granados. Not only did the students get to see some of their current teachers but also, some former teachers joined in the fun of reading. School No. 14 is so honored to have had so many special guest readers make it so memorable for the Lincoln Lions!

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC9ueNbKX7Vit6BrjfpjrlbA/videos>

A Few of My Favorite Things

Christopher Columbus School No. 15 celebrated Read Across America with enthusiasm! Students participated in themed days that celebrated some of the favorite books they read, places they wanted to explore, favorite story characters, self-expression, and future aspirations. These themes were explored in a variety of ways that were engaging, motivating, and meaningful.

Some activities also included creating a song or rhyme that students’ favorite story characters would sing or say, creating a virtual background of a place they want to travel to and explore, dressing up as if they were in their dream career, recording themselves reading a favorite book, creating book covers, and expressing themselves in fun ways such as with fancy hair or mix and match clothes. Students and staff enjoyed celebrating their love of reading.



| Name _____ READING BINGO | | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| a book with animal characters | a book written by a black author | a book by a female author | a book with a character that looks like you |
| a biography or auto-biography | a book about a different culture | a book written by a Hispanic author | a book about kindness |
| a book about families | a book about courage | a book by an Asian author | a book about friendship |
| a book by an Amerindian author | a book about courage | a book about creativity | a book about different kinds of hair |
| a book about immigration | a book about learning differences | a book about a scientist | a book about someone who stands up for others |

Reading Bingo

In honor of Read Across America Week, **Madison-Monroe School No. 16** celebrated by having a month-long *Reading Bingo Challenge* for all students. Students who filled the entire bingo card won prizes at the end of the month. Students also had mystery readers join their classrooms for story time and participated by dressing up according to the theme of the day.

Celebrating Reading

Robert Morris School No. 18 students and team members took advantage of this very special time to celebrate the importance of reading and all that it brings to our lives by reading their favorite books together and independently, integrating stories into other subjects such as math and social studies.

Students also practiced their rhyming skills; discussed the importance of reading; explored his writing styles and themes of various books; made literary comparison and wrote persuasive essays; and enjoyed guest readers engaging them with excerpts of some of their favorite books.



Favorite Book Show and Tell

First grade students, from **Woodrow Wilson School No. 19**, participated in a *Favorite Book Show and Tell* as part of their Read Across America Week Celebration!

Each student got to bring in their favorite book from home. One at a time, each student shared details about their book with the class. Some students even dressed up as their favorite character! The students were able to learn more about each other's interests and see what each classmate likes to read in his or her free time. This was a great way to build classroom community and celebrate the love of READING!



Be Creative While Reading



Mrs. Jean-Philippe's third grade class, from **John Marshall School No. 20**, took place in a reading challenge during the Read Across America week. Students were encouraged to think of creative ways they could engage in reading around their homes. Some students decided to read upside down, some read to their pets, to their family members, stuffed animals, and some even read in bed with their hats on. The students looked forward to the end of the challenge to show their classmates all of the creative ways they had read their books.

Today's Readers, Tomorrow's Leaders!

William F. Halloran School No. 22 celebrated Read Across America by having parents as virtual guest readers. They read many books. Students also created their own fun rhymes and characters and presented them on Flipgrid.

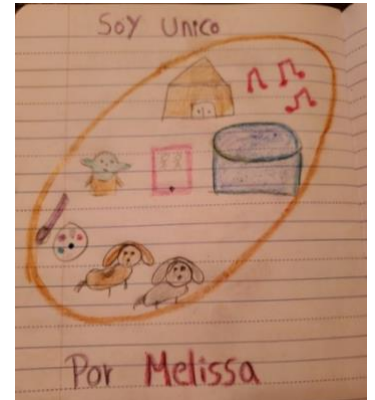
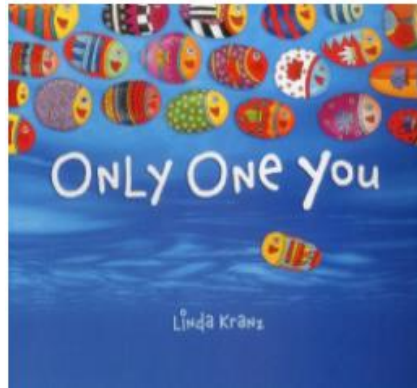
Many students also had the chance to record themselves and read their favorite stories to their classmates. This year, with virtual learning, students also had the opportunity to make their background as their favorite book! Much fun was had by all during this annual literacy celebration!



Only One You/Nadie Como Tu

Mrs. Garcia's bilingual kindergarten class from **Nicholas Murray Butler School No. 23** celebrated the week of Reading Across America with special activities.

After reading "Only One You/Nadie como tu" by Linda Krantz, students designed a rock with different drawings that represented why they are unique and special. Students were enthusiastic about presenting their work to their classmates.



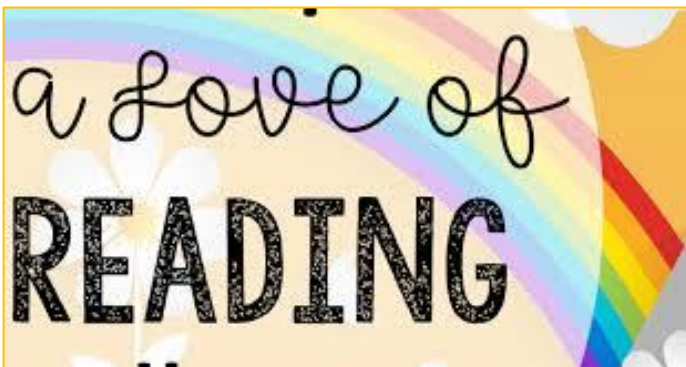
Guest Readers

At **Sonia Sotomayor School No. 25**, students participated in theme days and activities to celebrate Read Across America Week. Teachers shared books with their students and were able to watch videos of special guest readers such as Second Gentlemen Emhoff, Senator Booker, Mayor Bollwage, EPD Chief Sacca, and Principal Mrs. Francisco. It was a fun-filled week that helped instill a love for reading in all students.



Reading and Learning

Students from **Dr. Orlando Edreira Academy School No. 26** participated in activities including talking about each of their favorite characters from the stories they've read, brainstorming the character traits for each character, and dressing up as their favorite character while trying to guess the character each of their classmates dressed up as; reading a book about New Jersey and another state of their choosing for which they will gather and share facts about the states they chose; completing art projects based on stories they have read; reading, making inferences, and sharing personal connections to stories that they have read; played math games related to stories they read; researched famous women and composed small paragraphs about the women they studied; and created pattern activities based on the content of stories.



Parents Join in the Fun of Reading

Frances C. Smith ECC School No. 50 invited parents to join virtually and read one of their favorite book or their child's favorite book. The children enjoyed Wacky Hair Day, Silly Sock and Silly Hat Day as well as coloring and coming up with different rhymes.



Having Fun While Reading

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. ECC School No. 52's children enjoyed participating in various activities. They had special themed days such as Silly Sock Day, Wild Hair-Do Day, Wacky Hat Day, Pajama Day, and Virtual Dance Party or Movie Day.

Students were able participate in a dance party or watch a movie version of a book that they have read. Virtual guest readers were given the opportunity to read their favorite children's stories to students throughout the week.



The Importance of Reading

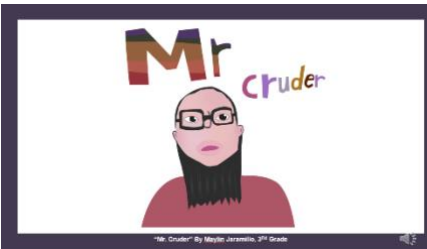
In order to bring awareness to the importance of reading in education and to motivate students to read more, students from **Admiral William F. Halsey, Jr. Academy** celebrated Read Across America by creating computerized collages of their favorite book, discussing changing titles of a novel they have read, recording themselves reading to a younger sibling, writing essays convincing students to read their favorite book and drawing pictures from a book or a scene from their favorite novel.



Virtual Art Gallery and Talent Show

George Washington Academy of Science & Engineering School No. 1 celebrated students' eclectic cultures and school culture through entertainment this year.

Students were invited to participate in the first ever Virtual Art Gallery and Talent Show. Student and staff members demonstrated their artistic abilities thru the creation of Art and a variety of talents including playing the piano, dancing, singing, working out, and academic talents.



School No. 1 is proud of students who participated in the virtual Art Gallery ad Talent Show and demonstrated gallant efforts, in true GWA spirit.

AENJ State YAM Winner 2021- Isabella Rei

Isabella Rei, a seventh-grade art student, at **Joseph Battin School No. 4**, from Mrs. Downey's class, has had her graphic artwork, "Fall Landscape", advanced for exhibition in the Art Educators of NJ Youth Art Month at the State level! Each year, only six pieces of artwork are chosen from hundreds of entrants to represent their counties at the State YAM in Trenton. This will be the first time the Union County Art Educators of NJ will be premiering a virtual exhibit of student's artworks.





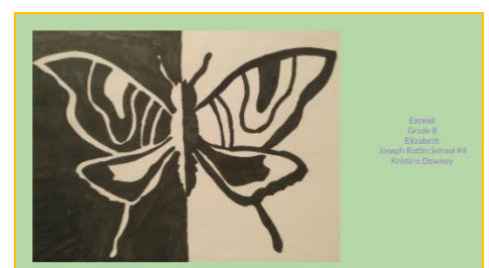
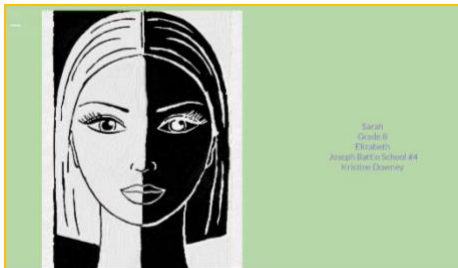
Elmora School No. 12 Celebrates Youth Art Month

Mr. Marotta's 7th Grade Art Students study Spanish Artist Salvador Dali's painting titled "The Persistence of Memory."

Students repurposed cardboard while creating an additive sculpture of the main part of this painting. During the creating process, the students were reminded that many times, a person's garbage can be considered another person's treasure. Student Joel Guterrez took his project to the Museum of Modern Art and took a photo right next to the original painting.

NJPAC's Spring Exhibit 2021

New Jersey Performing Arts Center and the Art Educators of New Jersey work together to create a display at NJPAC. Three students (Salomon Vargas Jr., Sarah Ortiz Giraldo, Ezekiel Recarte) from **Joseph Battin School No. 4** were selected to have their artwork displayed at NJPAC's Spring Exhibit 2021. Students were also invited to join a virtual reception on April 18th. To view the virtual art gallery, please click: [2021 Spring NJPAC.pdf \(aenj.org\)](#)



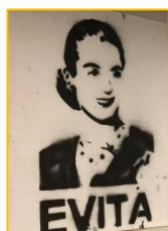
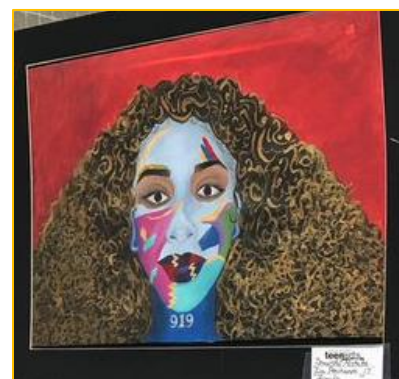
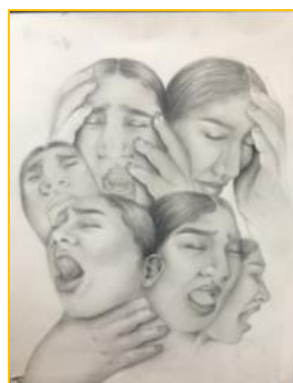
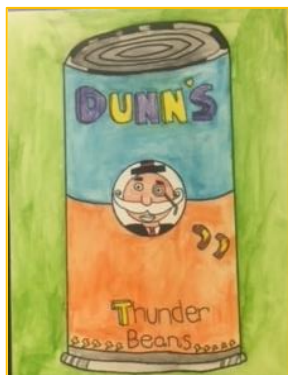
Art Students Share Their Work

Woodrow Wilson School No. 19 celebrated Youth Art Month with the Second Annual Virtual Art Show. The virtual art show is shared on YouTube and highlights student work in all grades. The talented students of School No. 19, under the guidance of their amazing art teacher, Ms. Ortiz, have created some beautiful pieces of artwork. You can see the passion and effort that went into their projects.

Please take a moment to enjoy the show at: https://youtu.be/oyhqxFzV_9Q



EPS Celebrates Youth Art Month 2021



EHS – FJC Director of Bands Selected as Adjudicator of Inaugural NJSSE

Elizabeth High School – Frank J. Ciccarell Academy Director of Bands Wayne Dillon has been chosen by Arts Ed NJ as an adjudicator for the inaugural The Inaugural New Jersey State Solo and Ensemble (NJSSE) Festival.

The NJSSE was launched to recognize student achievement in music education across the state. Open to all public or private middle school and high school students, the Inaugural New Jersey State Solo and Ensemble Festival is being held virtually to provide opportunities for scholastic music students to showcase their talents either individually or in a small ensemble. The festival is being run by Arts Ed NJ with systems support provided by Music for All.

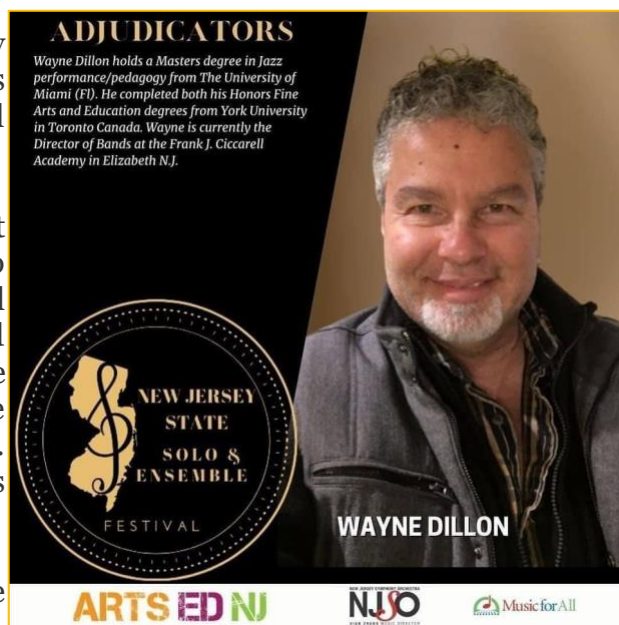
The competition will include solo and regular ensemble events (vocal, string, woodwind, brass, percussion, piano, guitar, and handbell) as well as special ensemble events (misc. ensemble, jazz ensemble, jazz combo, madrigal, vocal jazz, show choir, ethnic heritage ensemble, electronic ensemble, string choir/ensemble, woodwind choir/ensemble, brass choir/ensemble, percussion ensemble, guitar ensemble, and handbell choir). The performers will be placed into three classes, including Class C which consists of students with one or two years of musical experience, Class B which consists of students with three or four years of musical experience, and Class A which consists of students with advanced high school musical experience.

Students will submit their performances May 1 through May 15 and adjudication will take place May 15 through May 30. The results of the competition will be released on June 1.

Dillon will be responsible for providing teachers with written and verbal feedback on the performer's submission, as well as ratings when requested, to share with their students.

"The bands of Elizabeth High School have enjoyed a long history of success, earning local, regional, and national accolades in solo and ensemble performances," said Elizabeth Public Schools Superintendent Olga Hugelmeyer. "Wayne Dillon's leadership and guidance has been a constant through much of that history. He is an excellent choice as an adjudicator for the NJSSE and the student performers who will be participating are very fortunate to have the opportunity to receive feedback from someone with such expertise and success."

"Countless Elizabeth High School students have developed a passion for music and have excelled in the arts because of the dedication and skill of Wayne Dillon," said Elizabeth Board of Education President Jerry Jacobs. "I am happy to see his excellent work in our school community rewarded with this well-deserved selection."



EHS High School Jazz Band Share Music

The Elizabeth High School Jazz Band created a video that features four freshmen students from **Elizabeth High School - Frank J. Cicarell Academy** performed 'Blues for Teams' by Ben Schwartz. The students included are Rodrigo Chancafe-Guitar, Matthew Flechas-Saxophone, Nicholas Sarmiento-Trombone, and Brian Tecpanecatl-Trombone.



Please click here to watch their performance: [Blues for Teams - SD 48op\(2\).mov](#)



A Special Visit from Run-D.M.C.

Miss Coyne's seventh grade class from **Jerome Dunn Academy of Mathematics, Technology, and the Arts School No. 9** had the privilege of hosting Darryl McDaniel, American musician and rapper and member of the 90s group RUN-D.M.C. He is considered one of the pioneers of hip hop culture. Mr. McDaniel shared his story, his love of family, education, and comics. He encouraged scholars to use the power of words, of knowledge to be successful.



In his discussion, Mr. McDaniel asked the scholars to live with purpose. To communicate, to allow every experience in their lives to prepare them towards their future. At the end, he promised the scholars to return in person. Perhaps on the day of their graduation.

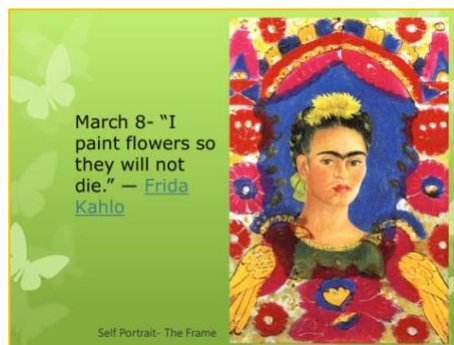
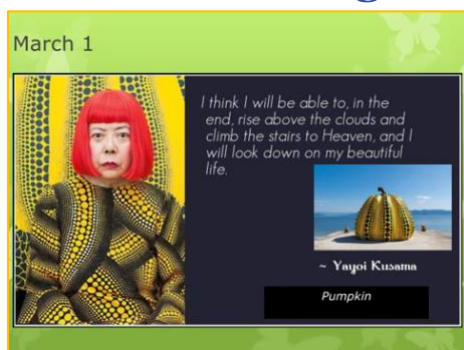
Diversity in the Classrooms

Alexander Hamilton Preparatory Academy's notable accomplishments that deserve recognition derive not only with the students but team members as well. The students at Hamilton Academy take part in a variety of initiatives; one worth noting is Kean's Diversity Council where students participated in a panelist presentation with a Q&A session alongside Diversity Council graduates given the opportunity to share how they built "CommUNITY" in high school and what they are currently doing to continue this important work.

Moreover, Lorena Canizares and Michelle Carranza were awarded and named the two high school winners in the Art and Essay Contest hosted by Elizabeth's very own Councilman-At-Large Frank Cuesta.



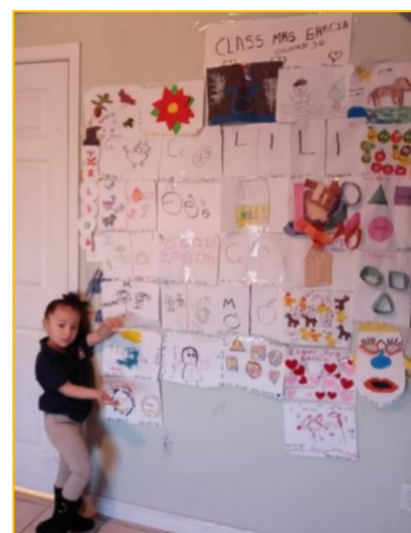
Sharing Art Quotes at EHS-FJC



For the month of March, Mrs. O'Keeffe's class from **Elizabeth High School – Frank J. Cicarell Academy** created daily art quotes focusing on women's history. Additionally, students are taught how to create Quilt Portraits inspired by Faith Ringgold work.

Display Your Creativity

Eliza Florez, from Mrs. Garcia's Pre-K class, at **Chessie Dentley Roberts Academy School No. 30** has made her own bulletin board of all her artwork at home. Students are encouraged to be creative and make their own display.



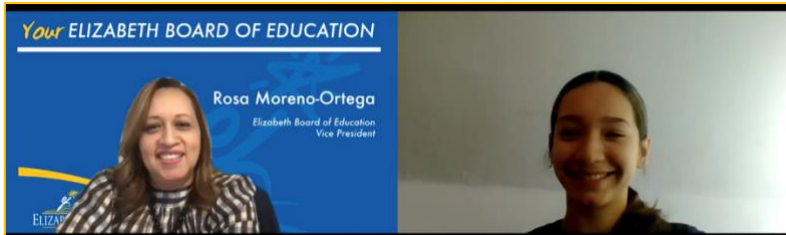
Juan Pablo Duarte-José Julián Martí School No. 28 celebrated St. Patrick's Day and Irish American Heritage month by taking a virtual trip to Ireland. All students in middle school joined a special St. Patrick's Day TEAMS meeting with both Middle School Social Studies teachers, Ms. Lee and Ms. Sereday and the ESL support teacher, Ms. Ramirez. Classes were shown Ireland on a map then went on a Virtual Trip to Ireland. After the trip, students participated in a group Kahoot about Irish culture and geography.



Celebrating Women's History Month

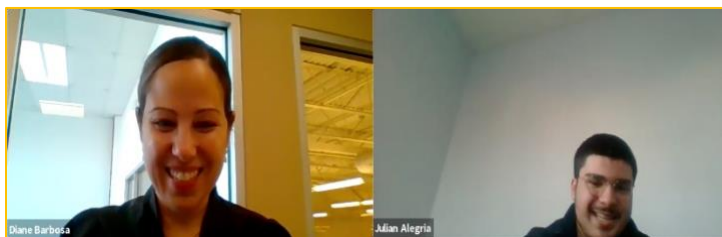
EPS Recognizes its Women Board Members

A few of our high school students had the opportunity to spend some time with a few of our Elizabeth Board of Education members. Students gained a better understanding about their roles as professionals as well as their responsibilities in serving as an EBOE member. The Board members had a chance to share their message with the students, as well as young women in Elizabeth, while also learn a little more about them.



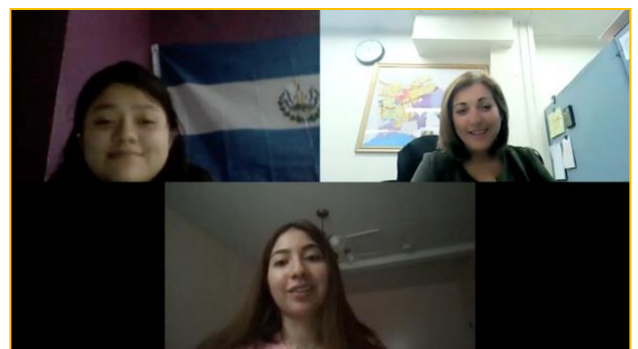
Admiral William F. Halsey, Jr. Health & Public Safety Academy's student Natalie Velasquez had the opportunity to interview Board Vice President Rosa Moreno-Ortega. Natalie enjoyed the time learning more about Vice President Moreno-Ortega's passion for teaching.

John E. Dwyer Academy's student, Ashley Catanho had the opportunity to learn more about EBOE Member Charlene Bathelus. One message that resonated with Ashley was the fact that young girls can do anything they want to. Ashley appreciates having had the opportunity to interview Board Member Bathelus.



Admiral William F. Halsey, Jr. Health & Public Safety Academy's student Julian Alegria had the pleasure to interview Board Member Diane Barbosa and learn about her role as a pharmacist and how community service has played an important role in her life. Julian is grateful for the time that he had with Board Member Barbosa.

J. Christian Bollwage Academy's students, Karen Cuadrado and Katerin Cardoza, had the opportunity to interview Board Member Maria Z. Carvalho. They were able to learn more about what she does at her current job and her vast contributions the community. Both students really admired spending time with Board Member Carvalho



Getting to Know a Few of Our Women Board Members

Stephanie G. Pestana



Where did you grow up? I was born and raised in the city of Elizabeth

Where did you attend schools? I attended the Elizabeth Public Schools from grades PreK-12 (Benjamin Franklin School 13, George Washington School 1, Mabel G Holmes Middle School, Jefferson Arts Academy) followed by Kean University & European Academy of Cosmetology.

What is your current occupation and/or current community service position? I am currently working as an administrative assistant for the Dept. of Human Services for Union County.

When did you know that you wanted to pursue the profession or community service that you chose? For a very long-time community service has always been a passion of mine. community service has and will always be a passion of mine. being able to make a difference in someone's life or even just being able to help whenever needed is a blessing. I am truly thankful for this due to the encouragement of my family and closest and dearest people in my life.

What message or lesson would you share with the young girls of the Elizabeth Public Schools community? As we celebrate the month of March being Women's International month I would like to remind all the young girls to "Be a girl that makes courageous decisions. Be a girl who values the truth. Be a girl who lives her life on her own terms. Be a girl that hunts goals. Be a girl who's empathetic. Be a girl whose dreams are big. Be all of these things and more.. the sky's the limit. Your life has a purpose, live it to the fullest!

Iliana Chevres



Where did you grow up? I grew up in Toa Alta Puerto Rico

Where did you attend schools? I graduated from Puerto Rico public schools and attended the Inter-American University of Puerto Rico for my undergrad and graduate education where are complete my degree in Criminal Justice and Investigation. I also had the opportunity to have several educational internship opportunities in the Puerto Rico Senate as well as in the Jose Ortega y Gasset Foundation in Spain.

Please provide a brief explanation of what you do in these roles and for how long you have been doing them. I am currently the site director of the Elizabethport Community Center since 2016. In the Elizabethport Center, we have the opportunity to help all the residents of the area and provide them with support services, as well as educational and prevention programs. And together with my family, we are the founders of the non-profit organization Elizabeth Parent Support Group whose mission is to help families of children with special needs. I also have the great opportunity to be part of other community organizations that aim to help community members including the Puerto Rican Alliance of Elizabeth and Hispanos Unidos.

What woman or women had the most influence on your career or service? The woman who most influences my career has been my Godmother's daughter to that is my son's Godmother now. She taught me that family love doesn't have to be limited to the sanguine connection. She has taught me through my life that you may not have an academic, economic or social connection with everyone, but we all have a common unity and that is our faith in God, our faith in a better future and our love for The others do not matter race, color, language and in difficult moments regardless of our differences.

.....Continued Iliana Chevres

What message or lesson would you share with the young girls of the Elizabeth Public Schools community?

The message I would share with the young women in the Elizabeth Public Schools community is that it dreams big that you pursue your dreams and don't let anyone limit you. In the life of each one of us, there will come a time where we will say this is my reason for existing and this will be my north to feel like a better human being, to feel that I am collaborating with society, that I am doing something for others. When that happens, you must follow that impulse and contribute in a unique way in our society and as women, you will open doors and will be the example that we can and are have equal rights and equal opportunity.

Nathalie Alcaide-Hernandez



Where did you grow up? I was born and raised in Elizabeth, NJ.

Where did you attend schools? I attended school in Elizabeth and graduated from Kean University with a Master's degree in Biotechnology.

What is your current occupation and/or current community service position? I currently serve as the Assistant Director to the Division of Outreach and Advocacy for the Union County Department of Human Services. I previously served as the Coordinator of the Union County Office of Community Engagement and Diversity. I am a current proud CASA advocate, member of Be the Change NJ and a member of the Urban League of Union County Young Professionals.

When did you know that you wanted to pursue the profession or community service that you chose? Community service has been a lifelong passion for me starting with the encouragement of my family to always help others. Through community service these humbling feelings of hope, understanding, and appreciation that I have experienced in those moments are my driving force to do more. These moments are my constant reminder as to how thankful I am for what I have in my own personal life, and how blessed I am to have time and the skill set to make a difference in another person's life. Community service makes it clear that real connection is what is important and helps me feel part of the community. The experience is rewarding; I receive an invaluable gift from each and every moment.

What woman or women had the most influence on your career or service?

Some of the most inspiring experiences I have ever had with volunteering was under the mentorship of Dr. Norma Bowe, Kean University Professor and founder of Be the Change NJ. Dr. Bowe has a heart of gold and through her and all the wonderful work and impact Be the Change NJ has on our communities it provided such an influential experience on my life and the life of others. Dr. Bowe like myself and all of the members are always up for the challenge of advocating for the voices that are not heard and being there to lend a helping hand at any time for anyone.

What message or lesson would you share with the young girls of the Elizabeth Public Schools community?

Let us celebrate endurance even in its smallest shapes. Life will certainly have its ups & downs, its speechless moments, its beginnings and endings and somehow through it all, you will learn to breathe and encounter grace and wisdom in unexpected places. On this journey called life, you will realize at every point on your path, you were learning. Gratitude found you. Strength found you. Sunlight found you and in the end after everything, you grew exactly how you were meant to. Hope is never wishful thinking. Hope is the audacity to believe that after all you have been through, there is so much more that lies ahead of you and your wonderful dreams so go out there and commit to yourself and all that you are made of.

Celebrating Women's History at School No. 14



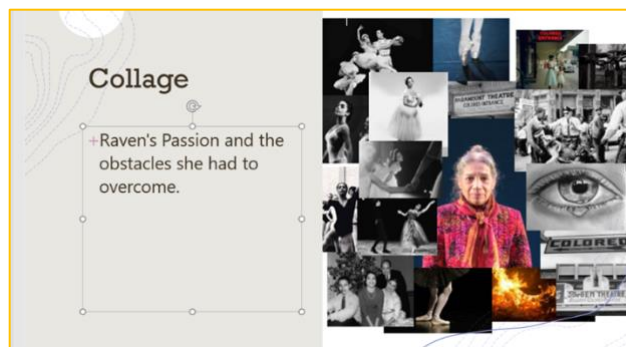
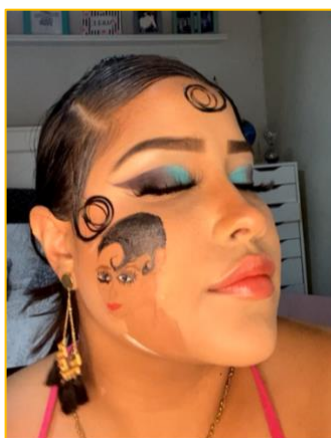
Abraham Lincoln School No. 14 celebrates women everywhere! Scholars in all grades were invited to highlight a woman who they believe made an important impact on our country. Students were able to choose between drawing a picture (grades K-2), writing an essay or poem, creating an iMovie or PowerPoint or song. Student work was included in the school's morning announcements during the month of March.

Additionally, teachers have volunteered to record the morning announcement and highlight an influential woman in history. Some of the great women to be celebrated include the Great Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Lady Gaga, Claudette Colvin, and Judy Blume. School 14 looks forward to sharing the creative work of their scholars and seeing their teachers participate in the daily announcements.

Honoring Women History Month Through Dance

Mrs. Nicole Lemoine and her dance classes at **Elizabeth High School- Frank J. Cicarell Academy** kicked off Women's History Month by researching female dancers, artists and poets. Students created online presentations as well as artistic products celebrating the history maker of their choice.

The week concluded with Mrs. Lemoine teaching a contemporary modern dance piece set to the poem Phenomenal Woman by Maya Angelou. Students were encouraged to create their own empowering choreography as part of the dance piece.



Discovering Women Musicians

During the month of March, students at **Dr. Orlando Edreira Academy School No. 26** learned about how the roles of women changed throughout music history.

The students were surprised to discover that women were not always allowed to experience or participate in music. Students were encouraged to explore and find more facts about significant women musicians outside of those discussed in class. Listening activities allowed students to experience the development of music and appreciate the contributions that these women musicians have made. The elementary students learned about significant women musicians such as Clara Schumann and Fanny Mendelssohn and shared fun facts from their findings with their classmates during class time. The middle school students participated in research projects about women musicians and their accomplishments.



Women Around the Globe

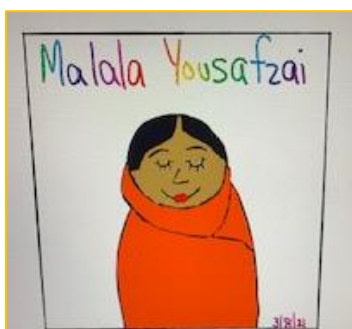


Juan Pablo Duarte-José Julián Martí School 28 celebrated Women's History Month by highlighting the contributions of women from around the globe. Among some of the women highlighted were: Dr. Ngozi Okonjo, Nigerian author and entrepreneur, Elizabeth MacDonough, an American lawyer in the US parliament, Tessy Maria Lopez, Mexican Solid-Chemist, Rosa Park, civil rights activist. Teachers were encouraged to discuss the contributions of these women each day during the month of March.

HERstory

At **Sonia Sotomayor School No. 25**, students participated in many activities to recognize Women's History Month. In Miss Cascante's third-grade bilingual class students learned about extraordinary women in history. They learned to be proud of all the adversities these exceptional women in HERstory have overcome and that if they could dream it and work hard, they can do anything.

Mrs. Dragone's 7th Grade Social Studies students created a proposal for a new federal holiday to honor a woman (or women) of their choice. Then they proposed their idea by writing a letter or creating a FlipGrid video to announce their new holiday to Mayor Bollwage and the citizens of Elizabeth.



Honoring Women

Nicholas Murray Butler School No. 23's Counselor, Katherine Amato, highlighted several important women in history for students in Grades K-4. Some of the women they learned about was Amelia Earhart, Misty Copeland, Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Nina Simone.



Through PowerPoint presentation for the older students and a read aloud for the younger students, all were able to experience and understand the following quote: "What I want young women and girls to know is: You are powerful and your voice matters."
Kamala Harris

Important Roles of Women



Madison Monroe School No. 16 used Flipgrid to highlight the important aspects of Women History Month. Pre-K discussed the important women in their lives and why they love them. Kindergarten through 2nd grade drew the different characteristics of a strong woman. Students discussed different female inventors and learned how much of an impact they had on everyone's lives.

Making a Change

For Women's History Month, the students in **Mabel G. Holmes School No. 5** sixth grade created a proposal for a new federal holiday to honor a woman (or women) of their choice.

Students researched an existing holiday to find out how it was established, whom it honors, the significance of this person to our nation's history, and how it is celebrated. Next, they reviewed the National Women's Hall of Fame and chose a woman (or women) they wanted to dedicate their new holiday to.

Once they completed their research questions, they proposed their idea by writing a letter or creating a Flipgrid video to announce their new holiday to Mayor Bollwage and the citizens of Elizabeth.



Researching the History of Women

The students, of **Joseph Battin School No. 4**, honored Women's History Month in various ways. Based on grade levels, some wrote essays, some did a word search, some read articles and books. A scavenger hunt through the use of websites that was shared by Mrs. Guica, guidance counselor, was a new fun activity. Mrs. Vendemia's kindergarten class celebrated their 800th Epic book read with a book about Danica Patrick followed by sentence writing and creating Danica's race car through the use of shapes they were learning about.



Celebrating Accomplishments of Women

To celebrate and learn about the accomplishments of women in history, culture and society **Admiral William F. Halsey, Jr. Academy** students, explored women's history exhibits virtually, learned about famous women poets, went in STEM fields who led the way of change. Some students also went on virtual scavenger hunts and in the process they learned about several important people such as; Abigail Adams, Susan B. Anthony, sojourner Truth, Rosa Parks, as wells as important dates and movements.

Online Exhibits

Explore our collection of virtual exhibits and learn about trailblazing women, past and present.



National School Social Workers' Week

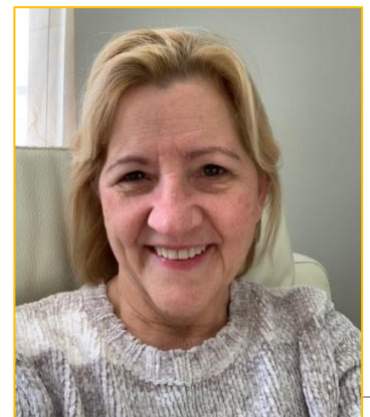


Elmora School No. 12 recognized Social Worker, Mrs. Carrero-Iglesia, during Social Worker Appreciation Week. A school-wide video montage of all messages created by students and team members was put together and shared with the entire school to show gratitude and admiration for Social Worker, Mrs. Carrero-Iglesia.

School No. 12 would like to give a special thanks for all you do every single day in ensuring students and families receive outstanding social emotional support and genuine care during these trying times!

Sonia Sotomayor School No. 25 recognized their school social worker, Colleen Reynolds by having members of the school community submit individual thank you videos. These videos were then compiled to create a heartfelt message of appreciation to the very dedicated, Mrs. Reynolds.

A special thanks for your dedication and hard work!



Varsity Boys Basketball Senior Night

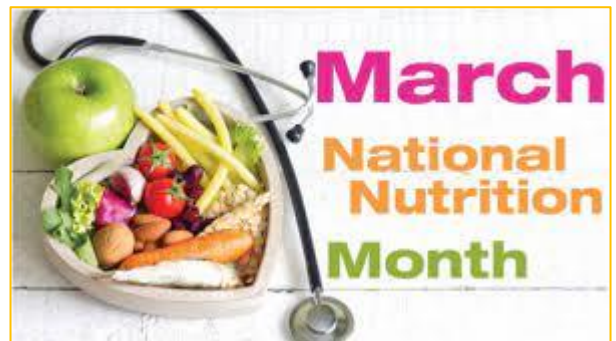
The 2021 varsity boys' basketball season marks the end for a group of seven seniors who have had a great high school run. On March 3, those seniors were honored at a home game against Union Catholic and continued their winning ways with a 64-29 win.



During the 2020 season, these student athletes were crowned North Jersey, Group 4 state champions. Among many great accomplishments through their years as Elizabeth basketball players, perhaps their greatest was playing prominent roles in Elizabeth Basketball's return to being New Jersey's top public-school basketball program. Al-Fatir Connor, Pascal Dodard, Evan Perez, Gil Morla, Kaeson Rose, Elias Hernandez, and Jeremy Duran have left a permanent mark on this program, their teammates, and their coaches. They will all be extremely missed. Good luck on your next adventure gentlemen.

Eating Healthy

The 7th grade scholars of **Jerome Dunn Academy of Mathematics, Technology, and the Arts School No. 9** are learning about overcoming obstacles and roadblocks when it comes to eating out. This includes making better choices when picking from the menu of any restaurant. After watching the video and class discussion, the scholars learned how to find alternating ways in selecting food and drink while eating out. The scholars filled out a worksheet about their obstacles and how they were going to overcome the roadblocks. Some scholars had similar obstacles as their peers which helped them to know they were not alone when it came to these obstacles like drinking juice instead of water or milk.



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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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