

EPS to Participate in Middle States Regional Forum



 **CollegeBoard**
Middle States Regional Forum
Feb. 6–7, 2019 | Baltimore, MD

Elizabeth Public Schools has been invited to attend The College Board Middle States Regional Forum on February 6-7 in Baltimore, Maryland to serve on one of the forum's panel discussions.

The Middle States Regional Forum is an annual gathering of professionals from across K–12, higher education, and college access professions. The conference offers dynamic speakers, networking opportunities, and a wealth of sessions and workshops led by experienced colleagues. The Regional Forum provides an opportunity for great minds in education to discuss hot topics, as well as longstanding concerns related to academic readiness, educational opportunity, and student success.

EPS Director of Research, Evaluation, and Assessment/District Coordinator, Amy Gil, and Abraham Lincoln School No. 14 Guidance Counselor, Jessica Sofranko, will attend the forum and participate in the SAT Digital Session on Wednesday, February 6. The session will include a panel of school and district administrators who will share their recent experiences with digital testing. Attendees will have the opportunity to learn how schools prepared for and implemented digital testing, the training and supports provided by the College Board for digital testing, and how digital testing can help support a positive test day experience for students and proctors.

Gil and Sofranko will join a group of presenters that include Supervisor of Assessment, Accountability, and Program Evaluation Elaina Parrish and Andrew G. Wright Middle School Principal William Boatwright of Stafford County Public Schools, Virginia, as well as Senior Director of Digital Product Management Supriya Oberoi from The College Board, New York. The session will be moderated by Vice President of Digital Assessment Transformation Bridget Fortner of The College Board.

Elizabeth High School Receives Grant, Tools from Mid-Atlantic Robotics



Herb Katz, Development Director from Mid-Atlantic Robotics, visited Elizabeth High School Frank J. Cicarell Academy (EHS) to deliver a kit of robotics competition tools as part of a grant received by the school to compete in FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) Robotics Competitions.

Mid-Atlantic Robotics is a New Jersey Non-Profit Corporation with IRS 501(c)(3) exemption as a charitable organization with brand pseudonym FIRST Mid-Atlantic. It was created in October 2010 with the encouragement of FIRST, Manchester, NH. Their mission is to promote and implement FIRST Robotics Competition (FRC) programs for the benefit of all FRC teams in its region which spans all of Delaware, New Jersey and counties in Pennsylvania from Harrisburg eastward.

FIRST was founded in 1989 to inspire young people's interest and participation in science and technology. Based in Manchester, NH, the 501(c)(3) not-for-profit public charity designs accessible, innovative programs that motivate young people to pursue education and career opportunities in science, technology, engineering, and math, while building self-confidence, knowledge, and life skills.



EHS Receives Grant, Tools from Mid-Atlantic Robotics (cont.)

EHS received a \$6,000 grant exclusively for FIRST Robotics Competition Rookie teams participating in the 2019 season. High school teams compete head to head on a special playing field with robots they have designed, built, and programmed to perform challenging tasks against a field of competitors. In addition to learning valuable STEM and life skills, the team must also raise funds, design a team brand, hone teamwork skills, and perform community outreach.



"STEM education is vital to the advancement of our society and provides our students with the skills and knowledge to compete and obtain highly sought after careers," said Elizabeth Public Schools Superintendent Olga Hugelmeyer. "This grant and the donated competition tools gives our students the opportunity to further enhance those skills while allowing them to gain an appreciation and deeper level of understanding about robotics."

The grant comes one year after students at Elizabeth High School took the initiative to start a computer coding/robotics club. The team name chosen for the team is Kronecker Delta, named after 19th century mathematician Leopold Kronecker. The Kronecker Delta is a function of two variables, usually just non-negative integers. The function is 1 if the variables are equal, and 0 otherwise. They adopted the name as it aligns with the team philosophy that the club must act as a single unit, a team, on which all members are equal with no person considering themselves different than the rest.

"The Board would like to thank Mr. Katz and Mid-Atlantic Robotics for its generous donation to Elizabeth High School," said Elizabeth Board of Education President Stephanie Goncalves. "Elizabeth Public Schools administrators and teachers work hard to secure innovative educational opportunities for their students. We are happy to see that the hard work of team members at Elizabeth High School toward providing our students with a high quality education has been rewarded."

EHS Speech and Debate Takes 5th in Hunterdon Central Tourney

The Elizabeth High School Speech and Debate Team had a successful showing at the Hunterdon Central Winter Invitational on January 5 in Flemington, New Jersey. EHS welcomed 2019 by bringing home fifth place in the overall competition.

Elizabeth High School – Frank J. Cicarell Academy (EHS-FJC) senior Damien McCree finished first in Program Oral Interpretation (POI) and fourth in Dramatic Interpretation (DI); EHS-FJC senior Hunter Ayala finished first in Dramatic Interpretation (DI); EHS-FJC senior Justin Dolalas finished first in Humorous Interpretation (HI); Hunter Ayala and EHS-FJC freshman Harrison Ayala finished third in Duo Interpretation (DUO); EHS-FJC freshman Layla Sayed finished sixth in Informative Speaking (INF); EHS-FJC sophomore Olivia Iheke finished sixth in Improvisational Acting (IPV); EHS-FJC junior Daniel Cano finished ninth in Congressional Debate (SC); and EHS-FJC senior Steven Urdaneta finished twelfth in SC.

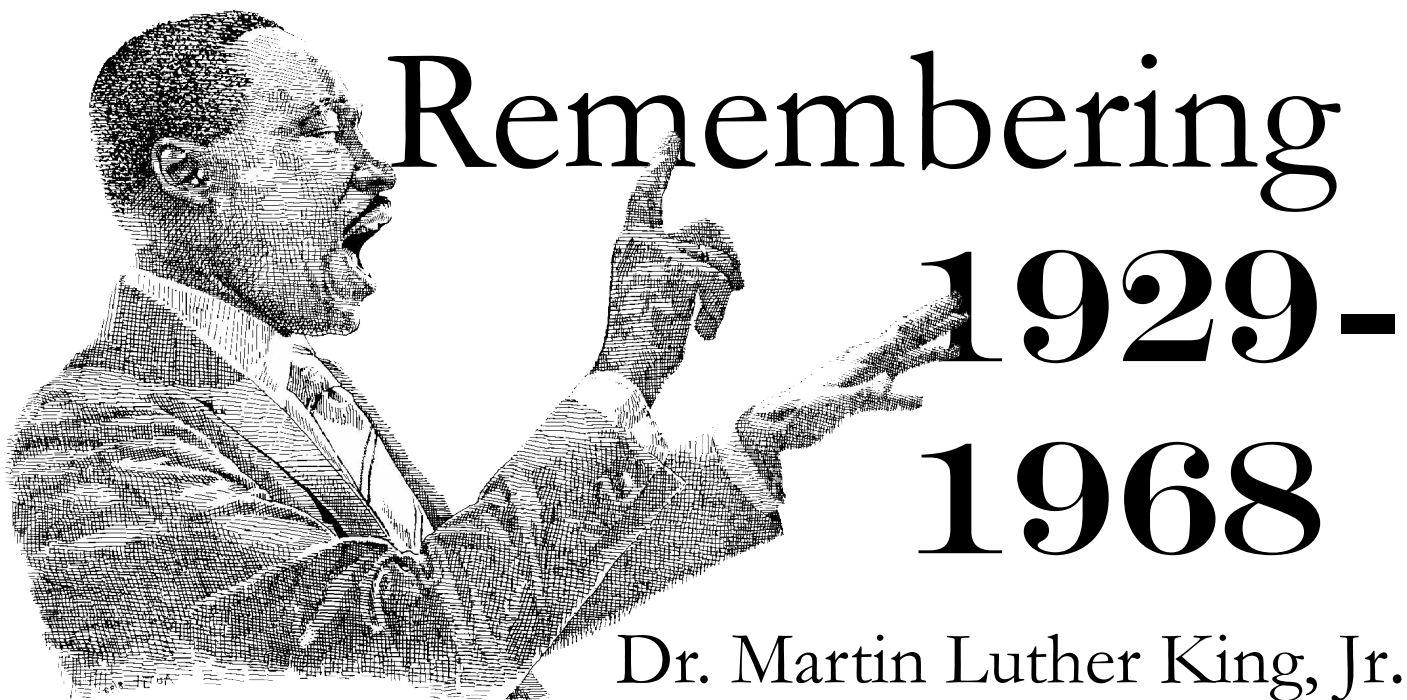


SPEECH & DEBATE

L.O.T. Attends Money Management/Wealth Empowerment Seminar



On January 7, Leaders Of Technique (L.O.T.) members from School Nos. 1, 5, 6, 9, 16 and 27 attended the organization's first Money Management/Wealth Empowerment seminar at the auditorium of School Nos. 1 and 9. The young men learned valuable lessons about turning their passions into profits, making a budget plan based on income and expenses, and that proper planning prevents poor pockets. Mr Jeffrey Ulysses M.S.Ed, CEO of J/U Consultants gave a dynamic presentation that incorporated hip-hop music, call and response, and crowd interaction.



Remembering 1929- 1968

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Dear Elizabeth Public Schools Professional Learning Community,

At each Elizabeth Board of Education business meeting, we begin our meeting with the Opening Calendar, which includes the Elizabeth Public Schools Pledge of Ethics. One of the lines that really resonates from the Pledge of Ethics is our pledge to “understand that the school community is a special place.”

There are so many things that make the Elizabeth Public Schools Professional Learning Community special. Among them is the dedication of its team members, whether it is support staff, teachers, or administrators, to provide our students with the opportunity to succeed and to ensure that every child achieves excellence.

You are exceptional because you felt the calling and chose to embrace the challenges of providing our students with the educational and life skills needed to live prosperously. You believed that our students could succeed regardless of race, ethnicity, culture, neighborhood, household income or home language when others did not.

With Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.’s birthday approaching, we are reminded of the importance of dedicating our lives to education and service and his perseverance in communicating those essential values.

As Dr. King so eloquently stated in his paper, “The Purpose of Education,” “we must remember that intelligence is not enough. Intelligence plus character--that is the goal of true education. The complete education gives one not only power of concentration, but worthy objectives upon which to concentrate.”

Remembering Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. (cont.)

It is imperative that we continue to provide our students with academic instruction that places as much emphasis on developing language, math, and science skills as it does developing social and emotional skills. We must instill a passion not only for our students to seek knowledge, but also for them to grow into leaders who care enough to share their knowledge with others.



In his sermon, "The Three Dimensions of a Complete Life," Dr. King said:


"...a man has not begun to live until he can rise above the narrow confines of his own individual concerns to the broader concerns of all humanity...Somewhere along the way, we must learn that there is nothing greater than to do something for others....And don't forget in doing something for others that you have what you have because of others. Don't forget that. We are tied together in life and in the world..."

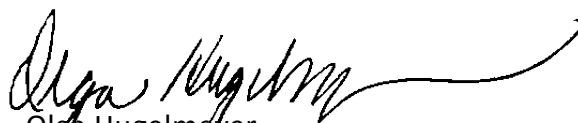
Though his intended meaning in this sermon was to "love your neighbor as you love yourself," we can apply this same simple principle to loving our students. Through our instruction, we must help students understand that first, we learn, and then, we serve. We receive the gift of education, and then we pass the gift to others.

The vitality of our community and society moving forward rests on both how well our students learn from the instruction we provide and how well those students carry and deliver that knowledge to the next generation of students who fill their seats. We will continue to ensure that our community thrives on the compounded equity from generations who receive from this special community and then give back to it.

Thank you for serving the Elizabeth Public Schools Professional Community as the vanguards of educating our students so that they may live out their full potential and, in turn, allow society to advance to its greatest version of itself.

Sincerely,


Stephanie Goncalves
Board President


Olga Hugelmeyer
Superintendent of Schools

EQUITY

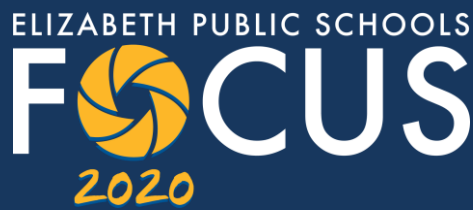
As a nation, America's Promise is that every child, regardless of race, ethnicity or social class, should receive a high quality, academically rich and rigorous public education.

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.