

EPS Celebrates Week of Respect



In September 2011, New Jersey Governor Chris Christie signed into law the "Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights," which requires school officials to combat incidents of harassment, intimidation and bullying (HIB). Included are those that occur off school grounds — even online — if they "substantially disrupt or interfere with the orderly operation of the school or the rights of other students."

As part of the Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights, the week beginning with the first Monday in October of each year (October 1-5 in 2018) is designated as the Week of Respect in New Jersey. To recognize the importance of social and emotional learning and character education, school districts, observe the week by providing age-appropriate instruction focused on preventing HIB.

Schools throughout the district participated in lessons and activities that promoted respect among students and team members.

EPS Celebrates Week of Respect (cont.)



Elizabeth Public Schools

Elizabeth Public School welcomed Interim Executive County Superintendent of Union County Daryl Palmieri on October 4 for his second visit as the district celebrated various school-wide Week of Respect activities. The Week of Respect is an annual week of awareness, education, and action around harassment, intimidation, and bullying in New Jersey public schools. The County Superintendent had the pleasure of visiting Elizabeth High School - Frank J. Ciracell Academy, Frances C. Smith Early Childhood Center School No. 50 and Dr. Albert Einstein Academy School No. 29. On his "Respect Tour," he interacted with members of the student council in a Random Act of Kindness Challenge; visited classroom lessons on mediation, conflict resolution, and pro-social behaviors during recess; and experienced schoolwide choral displays with anti-bullying and positive self-efficacy messages. It was a wonderful celebration of students' strengths and staff members' actions in recognizing the importance of character education in our schools.

Winfield Scott School No. 2

Created a Tree of Positivity during the week of respect as a whole school together from Pre-K to 8th grade including faculty. As the number of leaves increases, it creates a visual reminder, demonstrating that when we are united we can create social change.



EPS Celebrates Week of Respect (cont.)

Nicholas S. LaCorte – Peterstown School No. 3

Students of Nicholas S. LaCorte – Peterstown School No. 3 wore different color shirts representing different kinds of respect, including blue on Monday for anti-bullying, green on Tuesday for respect of the environment, pink on Wednesday for respect of those with illnesses and disabilities, and yellow on Thursday for respect of courage to stand up for others. The word RESPECT was broken down during morning announcements through the week (Monday- R – Realizing your potential and always trying your best and E – Embracing other peoples’ differences; Tuesday- S – Setting a good example by being kind to everyone and P – Promising not to be a bully; Wednesday- E – Earning respect by showing good character and C – Choosing to make healthy and safe decisions; Thursday- T – Treating others the way you want to be treated; and Friday- all letters of ways to show respect were read together). Students also participated in grade level activities (Grades K-2 cut out and decorated handprints attached to stems to look like flowers as part of a “Blooming with Respect” activity; grades 3-5 cut out and decorated pumpkins/leaves that were hung up in the hallways and explained how respect grows and develops as part of a “How Does Respect Grow ” activity; and grades 6-8 decorated and cut out and wrote how they can stomp out bullying as part of a “Stomp Out Bullying” activity) throughout the week.



Mabel G. Holmes School No. 5

The team at School No. 5 provided students with engaging and enjoyable activities and instruction during the Week of Respect, focusing on character education to prevent harassment, intimidation, and bullying. October 1st started out with students standing strong and wearing blue in solidarity to stop bullying and cyberbullying. Seventh and eighth grade students presented essays of character and joined “Let It Ripple” where they learned to create their “special sauce” of character traits to live their life with character and purpose. In addition, all homerooms participated in an anti-bullying poster contest for which three winners and three runner-up were announced. Ms. Connie Palmer, an experienced school counselor and LPC, presented the Bullies to Buddies approach where students were given a golden tool box to use when they find themselves being bullied or bothered. Furthermore, staff and students wore their favorite team jersey to “Team Up Against Bullying” and took the pledge to end bullying. Students that received Husky Tickets throughout the week were celebrated for showing responsibility, being respectful, and safe. Parents were invited to take a gallery walk around the school and observe all the work and posters that the students worked so hard on during this time.

EPS Celebrates Week of Respect (cont.)

George Washington Academy School No. 1 and Jerome Dunn Academy School No. 9

On Friday October 5th, 2018, during the Week Of Respect, George Washington Academy School 1 and Jerome Dunn Academy School 9 hosted a school wide Peace Walk. The purpose of the Peace Parade was to show respect towards ourselves, to others and to our community. Staff and students from both schools united and walked outside the school holding beautiful respect banners while singing respect songs.



Madison Monroe School No. 16

Students at Madison-Monroe School No. 16 honored the Week of Respect through various activities. Students "Stomp Out Bullying" by creating signs by saying stop bullying, wearing different color socks to show respect for the differences of others and 'Everyone Looks Good in Blue' by wearing blue shirts on the world day of bullying. They also began each morning with reflective quotes regarding having respect to others, discussing what it means to show respect in the classrooms, and ended the week by wearing their favorite super hero shirt.



EPS Celebrates Week of Respect (cont.)

William F. Halloran School No. 22

#KindnessRocks@22! was the theme for the Week of Respect at William F. Halloran School No. 22. Students, dressed in blue, started the week off by showing their support for the “Stomp Out Bullying” campaign by tracing their feet, making blue pins to wear on their sneakers, and writing anti-bullying messages on and around the school grounds. The teachers engaged the students with several activities that opened discussions about respect to support the annual anti-bullying school wide assembly. The students also started the month-long project, with their art teachers, of painting and decorating rocks with inspirational words as a reminder of the importance of being kind, and respectful leaders!



Dr. Orlando Edreira Academy School No. 26

Students at Dr. Orlando Edreira Academy, School No. 26 commenced the Week of Respect wearing blue in solidarity against bullying. They spread loving messages to one another as a reminder that in challenging times they can always count on each other. Students listened to stories that emphasized the importance of kindness and the meaning of being a good friend. Students were informed of the NJ Anti-Bullying Law/District Policy and watched videos on respect/Anti-Bullying. Faculty and Staff expressed their support against bullying by wearing Superhero T-Shirts as they united in celebrating Friday's theme, “Be A Hero...Stand Up Against Bullying. The spirit of RESPECT, UNITY, and KINDNESS was felt throughout Dr. Orlando Edreira Academy, School No. 26.



**“Respect for ourselves guides our morals,
respect for others guides our manners.”**

– Laurence Sterne

EPS Celebrates Week of Respect (cont.)

Dr. Albert Einstein Academy School No. 29

On October 1, students of Dr. Albert Einstein Academy School No. 29 dressed in blue and participated in its 6th “Stomp Out Bullying” campaign, showing that they do not tolerate bullying of any kind while focusing on having respect and showing kindness to each other. The 3rd grade class sang “United Against Bullying” that was composed by School No. 29 music teachers Mr. Schwartz and Mrs. DiFonzo. During the week, the teachers geared their lessons towards RESPECT. Additionally, each day during morning announcements a message of respect was shared.

The many activities of the weeklong celebration ended with an exciting Pep Rally that put an emphasis on School No. 29’s new theme of “Believing in your Selfie”. As the students exited the rally, they signed the large RESPECT letters that hung in the hall. The signature is a commitment to respecting everyone not just for those five days but always.



“Moral authority comes from following universal and timeless principles like honesty, integrity, treating people with respect.”

- Stephen Covey

John E. Dwyer Technology Academy

City of Elizabeth Mayor J. Christian Bollwage stopped by John E. Dwyer Technology Academy Annex to speak to students and was able to witness the various activities that were taking place as part of the Week of Respect.



Following the Beat To Success

EHS Marching Band Continues to Make Strides With Each Competition



The Elizabeth High School Marching Band had enjoyed early success this season as it has entered competition with its performance of “Celebra La Vida,” a program that includes music from the movie Coco and classical music by Arturo Marquez.

The band’s season began with the USBands Scotch Plains/Fanwood High School Marching Band competition on September 22, in which they placed third in Group 6 Open, the largest and most competitive division of competition. Elizabeth (84.225) finished behind South Brunswick High School (87.85) and John P. Stevens High School (86.125).

Following their first competition, the band sought to improve their overall score in rehearsal prior to their next performance, the USBands Piscataway High School competition on September 29. Some of the ways the team works to improve include studying their performance and using the UDBapp, the app from Ultimate Drill Book that allows bands to choreograph their performances and animate precise steps and movements for bands and their individual performers.

The band’s attention to detail led to greater success in their second competition in Piscataway as they won the prestigious "Best Color Guard" award in Group 6 open, placing first out of four groups and third out of 20 bands overall, beating out J.P. Stevens and South Brunswick who they had finished behind a week earlier. The percussion section placed 2nd out of the four 6 open groups, narrowly missing 1st place.

The EHS Marching Band followed their performance in Piscataway with a breakthrough at a USBands competition at Jackson Memorial High School in which they scores the highest (87.6) out of 15 bands in the competition.

According to EHS Marching Band Director Benjamin Schwartz, the band is improving week to week at a nice pace as it moves deeper into the season.

EPS Earns Honors in NJSPRA School Communication Awards



News from Central

insideeps

Elizabeth Public Schools, Elizabeth, NJ
June 21, 2018

EPS Students Growing Through Social Emotional Learning

SEL Core Competencies

Self-Management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regulating one's emotions Managing stress Self-control Self-motivation Setting and achieving goals 	Self-Awareness <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Labeling one's feelings Examining feelings and thoughts to behavior Accurate self-assessment of strengths and challenges Self-efficacy Optimism
Social Awareness <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Empathy Respecting diversity Understanding social and ethical norms of behavior Recognizing family, school, and community supports 	Responsible Decision-Making <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Considering the well-being of self and others Recognizing one's responsibility to behave ethically Based decisions on safety, social and ethical considerations Evaluating realistic consequences of various actions Making constructive, safe choices for self, relationships and school
Relationship Skills <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Building relationships with diverse individuals and groups Communicating clearly Working cooperatively Resolving conflicts Seeking help 	

Sources: CASEL, Knowledge Exchange

As part of our strategic plan, Elizabeth Public Schools focuses on creating safe and caring environments by promoting social, intellectual, and physical wellness. One of the ways in which we accomplish that is by providing our students with social emotional learning.

Social and emotional learning is the process through which children and adults acquire and effectively apply the knowledge, attitudes, and skills necessary to understand and manage emotions, set and achieve positive goals, feel and show empathy for others, establish and maintain positive relationships, and make responsible decisions.

As you will see in the pages ahead, every district school is successfully using social emotional learning as a tool to provide their students with the skills necessary to grow and evolve into responsible, caring young men and women.

News from Central / Elizabeth Public Schools, Elizabeth, NJ

Elizabeth Public Schools earned two recognition from the New Jersey School Public Relations Association (NJSPRA) for entries submitted to the 2018 NJSPRA School Communication Awards.

NJSPRA's School Communication Awards recognize outstanding print and electronic collateral material in New Jersey educational communications programs. The primary role of the professional school communicator is to disseminate important information about schools and school districts to all constituencies. NJSPRA developed the School Communication Awards competition to recognize professional school communicators in New Jersey – and the products they develop – that go above and beyond to disseminate important messages to their publics.

Elizabeth Public Schools received first place for its submission of a prom public service announcement in the video category. The PSA highlighted the dangers of drinking on prom night and the statistics related to prom drinking and driving fatalities.

The district also received a second place award for its submission of Inside EPS in the newsletter category. Inside EPS, one of the district's electronic newsletters, features district level news as well as notable achievements, stories, and events pertaining to schools, students, and team members.

To view the Prom Night PSA, please visit: <https://youtu.be/oGafvwyP50>

To view previous issues of Inside EPS, please visit: <https://www.epsnj.org/Page/3398>

For results of the NJSPRA School Communications Awards, please visit: <http://www.njspra.com/menus/school-communication-award-winners.html>

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.