



John E. Dwyer Technology Academy

Olga Hugelmeyer, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools

Sulisnet Jimenez, Principal

Jelsie I. Basso, Vice Principal

Elliott K. Johnson, Vice Principal

Michael Stephen Robel, Vice Principal Annex

August 2025

Dear Parents/Guardians and Students,

We, the entire staff here at *John E. Dwyer Technology Academy (Main #82 and Annex #82A)*, are honored and elated to welcome all of our students and family members to the 2025-2026 school year ***beginning on Thursday, September 4th***! Our promise is to provide an innovative and personalized learning environment that ensures that every child achieves excellence. Within a safe, rigorous, and welcoming environment, we believe that every student can and will learn at his/her optimal level in order to reach their highest educational potential.

Every year we strive to build a stronger partnership between both the home and the school community. By attending a coffee chat or, possibly, joining the PTO, these are just a few of the ways in which family members can become more engaged in our learning community and stay connected.

Please take the time to visit our district website and the ***Back to School*** link at <https://www.epsnj.org/Page/4374> for additional information on returning to school. Many of the important topics addressed in detail on the district website are also provided below for your immediate review:

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL / ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL PROCEDURES

The 2025-2026 school year will begin on Thursday, September 4th, 2025. Instruction will be conducted during the hours of ***7:45 a.m. to 2:29 p.m.*** There will be staff members outside the building to assist everyone during the first week of school.

In order to help facilitate both a smooth and orderly mode of transition during the times of arrival and dismissal, please adhere to the following safety procedures:

- Once students arrive to school, they will not be permitted to leave the premises. Classroom instruction begins promptly at 7:45 a.m. It is extremely important to drop-off your child by 7:15 a.m. to allow adequate time for the student to go to his/her locker and report to their 1st Period Class by 7:45 a.m. to maximize their optimal learning experience.

123 Pearl Street | Elizabeth, NJ 07202 • Phone: 908.436.6565 • Fax: 908.436.6566

Email: jimenesu@epsnj.org • Calixtosh@epsnj.org • johnsonel@epsnj.org

Annex: 227 Centre Street, Elizabeth, NJ 07202 • Phone: 908.436.6987 • Fax: 908.436.6699

Email: robelmi@epsnj.org

• Website: www.epsnj.org

John E. Dwyer Technology Academy



Olga Hugelmeyer, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools

Sulisnet Jimenez, Principal

Jelsie I. Basso, Vice Principal

Elliott K. Johnson, Vice Principal

Michael Stephen Robel, Vice Principal Annex

- Students who arrive late invariably disrupt the educational process. Please refer to the student handbook regarding all tardy and attendance rules and procedures.
- As an important reminder to everyone driving, the speed within the designated parameters of our school should not exceed the limit of 25 mph. Traffic tends to back-up, so please plan to drop-off and pick-up your child accordingly and drive safely.

On *Thursday, September 4, 2025*, the students will be allowed to enter the building at 7:15 a.m. if they wish to eat breakfast. Students will report directly to the school cafeteria.

EPS SCHOOL CALENDAR

We ask that you guide and support your child's learning by ensuring that he/she attends school daily, arrives on time, and is ready for the day's learning experience.

To review the EPS School Calendar for the 2025-2026 school year, please visit the following link: [School Calendar for 2025-2026 School Year.pdf](#)

POWERSCHOOL PARENT PORTAL INSTRUCTIONS

PowerSchool is an electronic management system that is utilized by the Elizabeth Public Schools in order to collect, store, and maintain pertinent student data and records. The application provides parents with real-time access to information that pertains to a student's schedule, attendance, grades, and academic progress; it also offers a convenient and accommodating way for both parents and teachers to communicate as needed. Therefore, everyone stays connected. Schedules for the upcoming 2025-2026 school year will be available to view on PowerSchool on *Monday, August 18th*.

Parents of new students must request a new account in order to input all of the information required to navigate the PowerSchool Parent Portal. Parents of existing students will need to log in, input, and update any changed information that has occurred for their child.

To obtain instructions on how to navigate the PowerSchool Parent Portal, please visit the EPS website at [Student and Parent Sign In \(powerschool.com\)](#).

123 Pearl Street | Elizabeth, NJ 07202 • Phone: 908.436.6565 • Fax: 908.436.6566

Email: jimenesu@epsnj.org • Calixtosh@epsnj.org • johnsonel@epsnj.org

Annex: 227 Centre Street, Elizabeth, NJ 07202 • Phone: 908.436.6987 • Fax: 908.436.6699

Email: robelmi@epsnj.org

• Website: www.epsnj.org



John E. Dwyer Technology Academy

Olga Hugelmeyer, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools

Sulisnet Jimenez, Principal

Jelsie I. Basso, Vice Principal

Elliott K. Johnson, Vice Principal

Michael Stephen Robel, Vice Principal Annex

If you experience technical difficulties while accessing your child's PowerSchool information, please contact your child's school or visit the EPS website at [Student Support Services / Student Registration \(PreK-12\) \(epsnj.org\)](https://www.epsnj.org). From there, please click on the ***"PowerSchool Parent Portal Help"*** tab. Please scroll down and click on the school that your child currently attends. You will then be directed to complete an online contact form. After clicking the ***Save*** and ***Done*** buttons at the bottom, your request will be submitted and someone from the school will be in contact with you as soon as possible.

UNIFORM POLICY

The intended purpose for the EPS dress code is to promote a positive self-image and to enhance school pride amongst our students. Health, safety, and educational well-being are the primary objectives for the dress code with the goal of fostering an environment that is conducive to discipline as well as to education. School uniforms are expected to be worn on a daily basis.

The uniform and dress code requirements for your child's school are provided on the EPS website at <https://www.epsnj.org/Page/4374>. Please refer to the ***"Uniform and Dress Code Policies"*** tile and follow the instructions provided.

Parents, we are asking for both your cooperation as well as your support regarding your child's adherence to the uniform policy. Students who do not adhere to the school uniform policy will not be permitted to enter the building on ***Thursday, September 4th*** or any school day thereafter. Please do not hesitate to contact the main office if you should have any questions with respect to the uniform policy.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES

For several years, our school has operated as a 1:1 technology school; and, as a result, all students will continue to utilize a **laptop computer** for their daily classroom instruction. Students should make every effort to take excellent care of their **laptops** throughout the school year, as this is a very special privilege. Our 1:1 technology implementation will continue to ensure that our students attain the competitive standards that are needed to foster both college and career readiness. **All students are required to bring their charged laptops and power cords**

123 Pearl Street | Elizabeth, NJ 07202 • Phone: 908.436.6565 • Fax: 908.436.6566

Email: jimenesu@epsnj.org • Calixtosh@epsnj.org • johnsonel@epsnj.org

Annex: 227 Centre Street, Elizabeth, NJ 07202 • Phone: 908.436.6987 • Fax: 908.436.6699

Email: robelmi@epsnj.org

• Website: www.epsnj.org



John E. Dwyer Technology Academy

Olga Hugelmeyer, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools

Sulisnet Jimenez, Principal

Jelsie I. Basso, Vice Principal

Elliott K. Johnson, Vice Principal

Michael Stephen Robel, Vice Principal Annex

to school daily. Cell phones, headphones, air pods are to be stored away upon arrival. The school is not responsible in the event any of these items are lost.

NEW ENTRANTS

All new students to the district will receive their laptop during the first week of school.

STAY CONNECTED

Receive School Reminders/Updates via Text Message!

Sign up to receive messages from your child's school and the Elizabeth Public Schools

NEW AND EXISTING PARENT INSTRUCTIONS

It is extremely important that we have the most updated home address and/or phone numbers so that we may contact you in the event of an emergency or to discuss your child's progress. Please be sure to update your contact information by logging into your PowerSchool Parent Portal and filling out the Emergency Information form found under the Forms link throughout the course of the school year should there be a change in either your home address and/or phone number. Open communication between the home and the school is expected and is one of the more pertinent keys to academic success in school.

Our Notification System enables staff members to contact parents through email, text, and through verbal messages recorded on the phone. Through this system, parents are immediately alerted of urgent information, major events, and/or upcoming dates. To ensure that this system will continue to operate in a highly effective manner, it is very important that we have **the most current and accurate information on file for each and every student.**

To obtain information on how to keep your contact information up-to-date, please visit the EPS website at <https://www.epsnj.org/Page/4374>. Please refer to the "Stay Connected" tile and follow the instructions provided on how to update your information on PowerSchool.

In addition, please consider volunteering your services and supporting the Parent/Teacher Organization (PTO) at your child's school. The PTO provides many opportunities for families within the school community to get involved and *stay connected*. Please be sure to sign up and learn more about the many resources that are available for your child here within the Elizabeth Public Schools.

123 Pearl Street | Elizabeth, NJ 07202 • Phone: 908.436.6565 • Fax: 908.436.6566

Email: jimenesu@epsnj.org • Calixtosh@epsnj.org • johnsonel@epsnj.org

Annex: 227 Centre Street, Elizabeth, NJ 07202 • Phone: 908.436.6987 • Fax: 908.436.6699

Email: robelmi@epsnj.org

• Website: www.epsnj.org



DISTRICT / SCHOOL INFORMATION

Please ensure that all of the required documents listed below are reviewed and completed by the first day of school and that all personal information is updated regularly:

- Emergency Information Form
- Notice Regarding Physicals
- Media Release Form
- Student Internet & Network Permission Form with Elizabeth Internet Use Policy
- Acceptable Use For Technology – Electronic Mobile Device Form
- Emergency Connectivity Fund (ECF)
- Lunch Application

In order to obtain access to the required documents that are indicated above, please visit the EPS website at <https://www.epsnj.org/Page/4374>. Please refer to the *“Forms and Applications for Your Child”* tile and follow the instructions provided.

TRANSPORTATION

Transportation will be available for the following students:

- Elementary students who live more than 2.0 miles from their school
- High school students who live more than 2.5 miles from their school
- Students whose IEP include transportation services

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Both the State of New Jersey Department of Education and the Elizabeth Board of Education require that all students meet high standards in order to receive a high school diploma.

Please visit the EPS website at <https://www.epsnj.org/Page/4374> and refer to the *“Graduation Requirements”* tile to obtain pertinent information regarding graduation requirements.



ABSENCES

Any student who accumulates more than nine (9) absences during the school year, in a subject area, may have credit for that course withheld even if absences are medically excused. Students who attain four (4) or more absences during the 4th marking period may have credit withheld.

Any student who is unprepared for physical education nine (9) times or more may have credit for that course withheld.

REPORT CARDS

Approximately every five weeks (8 times per year) either a progress report or a grade report will be mailed home. Each report lists important information. Class attendance and tardiness are also noted on both reports. Throughout the school year, please help us to stay on top of your child's attendance and tardiness.

Guidance counselors and administrators are available to meet with you throughout the school year. Please call ahead for an appointment to discuss your concerns.

The 2025-2026 Marking Period Calendar for grades K-12 can be found by visiting the EPS website at <https://www.epsnj.org/Page/4374> and clicking on the “*Marking Period Schedule*” tile.

ORIENTATION DATE

Orientation for our incoming 9th grade students is scheduled for:

Date: Tuesday, August 19, 2025

Time: 11:00 a.m.

Location: 227 Centre Street, Elizabeth, NJ 07202

BACK-TO-SCHOOL NIGHT



John E. Dwyer Technology Academy

Olga Hugelmeyer, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools

Sulisnet Jimenez, Principal

Jelsie I. Basso, Vice Principal

Elliott K. Johnson, Vice Principal

Michael Stephen Robel, Vice Principal Annex

We are excited to begin a new school year and invite parents and guardians to attend our Back-to-School night on:

Date: Thursday, September 18, 2025

Dwyer 9th Grade Academy Annex: 6:00 p.m. - 227 Centre Street

John E. Dwyer Technology Academy Main: 7:00 p.m. - 123 Pearl Street

We hope that you will all continue to enjoy the remainder of the summer. Let's continue on our shared mission to reaffirm equity, re-establish expectations, and reclaim excellence! We look forward to starting another journey together on ***Thursday, September 4th***.

Sincerely,

Sulisnet Jimenez, Principal
Elliott K. Johnson, Vice Principal
Sharon Calixto, Vice Principal
Michael S. Robel, Vice Principal Annex

123 Pearl Street | Elizabeth, NJ 07202 • Phone: 908.436.6565 • Fax: 908.436.6566

Email: jimenesu@epsnj.org • Calixtosh@epsnj.org • johnsonel@epsnj.org

Annex: 227 Centre Street, Elizabeth, NJ 07202 • Phone: 908.436.6987 • Fax: 908.436.6699

Email: robelmi@epsnj.org

• Website: www.epsnj.org