



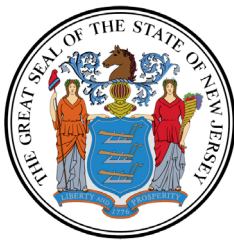
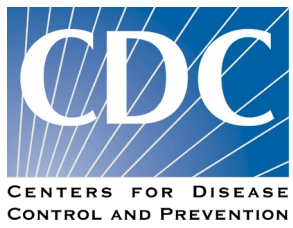
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ELIZABETH PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

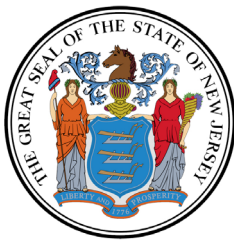
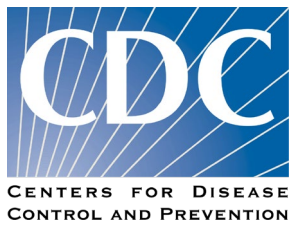
**October 2021**



# COVID-19 Screening – EPS Team Members

Executive Order No. 253, signed by Governor Phil Murphy On August 23, 2021, requires all preschool to Grade 12 school personnel to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 by October 18, 2021 or be subject to COVID-19 testing at a minimum of one to two times per week.

In compliance with Executive Order No. 253, COVID screening is currently being offered to Elizabeth Public Schools team members at several school facilities throughout the district. Leading the COVID-screening efforts is Kamran Tasharofi, MD of Union County Healthcare Associates (UCHA). Tasharofi is an internal medicine physician and civil surgeon who has been in practice since 2000.



# COVID-19 Screening – EPS Team Members

On staff at Trinitas Regional Medical Center in Elizabeth and Robert Wood Johnson Hospital in Rahway, Dr. Tasharofi has served the Union County area in a variety of practice settings, from Central Jersey Health Care Associates in Elizabeth and Caring Hospice in Edison to his present positions as Medical Director at UCHA (in six locations, including Elizabeth) and Grace Healthcare Services in Edison. He is also the Medical Director at Ascend Hospice, Alaris at Riverton, and Alaris at Care Connections (RWJ Rahway). Dr. Tasharofi has authored several medical publications and participated in several clinical research efforts.



# Saturday/After School Programs Return

Beginning in November, Elizabeth Public Schools will be restarting its after school and Saturday programs for students throughout the district.

After school/Saturday programs that will be taking place include:

- SAT Saturday Preparation Program
- Standard Virtual Mathematics Tutoring
- After-School Academic Program
- STEM Academy Enrichment, Grades K-8
- STEM Club Enrichment Program, Grades 9-12
- Saturday Arts Enrichment 6-12
- Bilingual Achievement Strategies Program 9-12 ELL ASP
- Best of Both Worlds, Grade 9
- Point of Entry K-8 ASP
- Intensive Literacy K-5





MONSIGNOR JOÃO S. ANTÃO  
SCHOOL NO. 31

The image shows the upper portion of a school building. The left side has a light-colored concrete facade with the school's name in raised letters. A red horizontal band runs below the name. To the right, a brick section of the building is visible, featuring several windows.

# School 26 and 27 Remediation Update



DR. ANTONIA PANTOJA  
SCHOOL NO. 27

The image shows the corner of a school building with a red brick facade. The school's name is mounted in large, raised letters on the brick wall.

# School 26 and 27 Remediation Update

At the present time, Dr. Orlando Edreira Academy School No. 26 @ 31 and Dr. Antonia Pantoja School No. 27 are projected to open in December.

However, the timeline is dependent on the availability of equipment and the replacement of parts.





# Bus Transportation for Students

School districts throughout the state have been experiencing bus and bus driver shortages and our district is among them. Among our unsung heroes are our bus drivers and those who have been admirably filling in to alleviate the issues caused by driver shortages.

Elizabeth Public Schools warehouse laborers have been performing double duty, fulfilling their responsibilities as warehouse workers while also supporting the district's transportation department by using their Commercial Driver's License (CDL) to serve as bus drivers.

Some district bus drivers have even been performing double routes in support of families displaced by Hurricane Ida in September, driving as far north as Jersey City and as south as Avenel to ensure students continue to get to school to learn. Their dedication to our students, displaced families, and district is extraordinary.





# Flu Shots Information



## IT'S TIME TO BEAT THE FLU.



**FREE FLU SHOTS  
VACUNAS GRATIS  
POR LA GRIPE**

**Linden  
9/23, 5–8pm**

Wheeler Park

**Roselle  
9/30, 5–8pm**

Abraham Clark High School  
122 East 6th Ave

**Plainfield  
10/7, 5–8pm**

Cedar Brook Park

**Summit  
10/14, 5–8pm**

City Hall, Whitman Room  
512 Springfield Ave

**Roselle Park  
10/21, 5–8pm**

Casano Community Center  
314 Chestnut St

**Hillside  
10/28, 5–8pm**

Hillside Community Center  
274 Hillside Ave

**Rahway  
11/4, 5–8pm**

Rahway Recreation Center  
275 East Milton Ave

**Springfield  
11/18, 5–8pm**

Chisholm Community Center  
100 South Springfield Ave

**Book Now/Haga su cita: 908-613-7829 or [ucnj.org/flu](http://ucnj.org/flu)**

### IMPORTANT/IMPORTANTE

Masks required  
Appointments  
strongly encouraged

Se requieren  
máscaras  
Se recomiendan citas

A Service of the Union County  
Board of County Commissioners

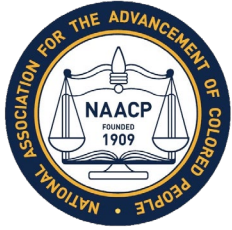


**UNION COUNTY**  
*We're Connected to You!*

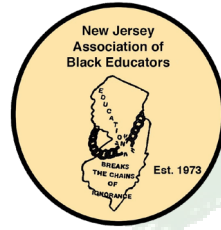
[www.ucnj.org](http://www.ucnj.org)







Elizabeth Branch



# Amistad Collaborative Community Forum

November 16, 2021 6:00p.m. – 7:30p.m

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Early Childhood Center School No. 52 – 130 Trumbull Street

Join Us  
Virtually!

Uniting Elizabeth Public Schools and the Community-at-Large in a conversation! Join us to learn about the:

## 5 Whys of the Amistad Mandate

1. Why is the Amistad Mandate a **Requirement**?
2. Why is the Amistad Mandate **Relevant** to your child's learning?
3. Why is it our **Responsibility** as a community to ensure full implementation of this law?
4. Why is it important to plan for the **Road Ahead**?
5. Why is it important to **Reflect** on the contributions of the African American experience in our EPS curricula?



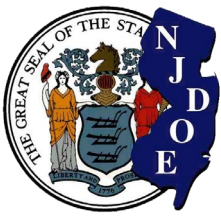
# EPS One of Two District to Pilot Pearson's TestNav Connect Platform

Elizabeth Public Schools was among two school districts in New Jersey to pilot Pearson's TestNav Connect platform during a special virtual administration of the Start Strong assessment for students at Dr. Orlando Edreira Academy School No. 26 @ 31 and Dr. Antonia Pantoja School No. 27.

School districts throughout New Jersey administered the Start Strong assessments this fall to satisfy the federal statewide assessment requirement for the 2020-2021 school year. EPS reached out to the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) for guidance about administering the Start Strong assessment to students at School Nos. 26 and 27 since they have started the school year virtually due to flood damage at their schools. The state decided they wanted EPS to administer the Start Strong to students of both schools virtually, creating the opportunity for the district to pilot Pearson's new test administration platform.

Through the TestNav Connect platform, teachers can administer online tests to students testing from home, using video, audio, and chat during the online testing session. Students and teachers can also share their screens when necessary.





# EPS One of Two District to Pilot Pearson's TestNav Connect Platform

NJDOE, Pearson, and EPS met to discuss administration logistics, allowing EPS to use its GoGuardian platform to monitor students as they were taking the Start Strong as well as offering the availability of TestNav Connect for monitoring purposes. The district used TestNav Connect with two groups of students, testing each group in English language arts (ELA) and mathematics for a total of four test administrations.

Following the test administrations, the teachers from each group had the opportunity to provide feedback to the support team from Pearson about its ability to help monitor student progress throughout the test sessions as well as the platform's functionality from a hardware/software standpoint. This vital feedback was well received and will be used by Pearson to inform platform improvements to provide an even greater experience between teachers and students in the event a virtual test administration is needed in the future.

# NEW JERSEY STATE ASSESSMENTS



ELIZABETH PUBLIC SCHOOLS

*Every Child, Achieving Excellence*

October 2021





# NJSLA, ACCESS for ELLs, and DLM

- April 14, 2021, the New Jersey Department of Education announced that the United States Department of Education allowed the cancellation of spring 2021 New Jersey Student Learning Assessment (NJSLA)
- The same announcement stated that the administration of ACCESS for ELLs and Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM) will continue as scheduled
- Both assessments (ACCESS for ELLs and DLM) were administered to the appropriately identified populations of students who were attending school in-person between April 5 and June 11, 2021



# DYNAMIC LEARNING MAPS (DLM)

- Dynamic Learning Maps® (DLM®) assessments are designed for students with the most significant cognitive disabilities for whom general state assessments are not appropriate, even with accommodations.
- DLM assessments offer these students a way to show what they know and can do in mathematics and English language arts/Literacy
- DLM Assessments are administered in Grades 3-8 and 11 as an alternative to NJSLA Assessments
- Just over 1% of students in Elizabeth meet the guidelines to take the DLM
- As a result of COVID-19, fewer students than usual participated in the DLM administration



# DYNAMIC LEARNING MAPS (DLM)

Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM) 2021





# ACCESS for ELLs

- Administered to English Language Learners (ELLs) to determine:
  - The level of English language that each student has acquired
  - The best placement for each student moving forward
- Assesses 4 language domains
  - Listening
  - Speaking
  - Reading
  - Writing
- Reports performance in all 4 domains and a composite score combining all 4
- Due to COVID-19, fewer students than usual participated in the ACCESS for ELLs administration
- Students who had returned to in-person learning and were potential candidates to exit from the Bilingual Program were prioritized



# ACCESS FOR ELLS

Proficiency Level	Listening	Speaking	Reading	Writing	Overall Score
1- Entering	0	3.1%	1.5%	1.9%	0
2- Emerging	<1%	23.7%	8.6%	2.7%	1.5%
3- Developing	3.4%	55.3%	16.2%	47.3%	28.2%
4- Expanding	4.9%	17.6%	9.0%	45.8%	51.5%
5- Bridging	12.0%	<1%	25.9%	1.5%	16.8%
6- Reaching	79.3%	0	38.7%	<1%	1.9%



# INTERVENTIONS AND SUPPORTS



ELIZABETH PUBLIC SCHOOLS

*Every Child, Achieving Excellence*



# ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS INTERVENTIONS AND SUPPORTS

## General Education

- Heggerty Phonemic Awareness support in Grades K-2 (ARP)
- Graphic organizers like Thinking Maps/Frames of Reference have been written into curricula to address rhetorical choices, structural elements, character description, etc.
- Multicultural/diverse and authentic texts for read-alouds, guided reading, passages at various DRA and/or Lexile Levels that are theme-aligned, and classic texts
- iRead and Waggle to support literacy skills in Grade K-3
- MyAccess Online Writing Program to hone literacy skills and develop digital writing portfolios for students in Grades 3-11
- Expansion of MyAccess to grade 12 (ARP)
- Cite-Smart for grades 9-12 to serve as a plagiarism checker (ARP)
- Updated benchmark assessments that reflect NJSLA released items
- Alignment of curricula to the New Jersey Student Learning Standards, including Career Ready Practices with emphasis on metacognitive strategies
- Continued curricula revisions of Project-Based Learning activities to increase student choice and voice
- Scaffolded writing instruction in all grade levels
- Additional practice in Research Simulation Tasks, Literary Analysis Tasks, and Narrative Writing Tasks in Grades 3-9, as well as text-based argumentative writing in Grades 6-12



# ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS INTERVENTIONS AND SUPPORTS

## General Education

- Supplemental resources to support curriculum, including Nearpod, Flocabulary, and NewsELA (ARP)
- District-wide professional development on MyAccess, Nearpod, Flocabulary, NewsELA, text structure of rhetorical modes, vocabulary acquisition strategies, interrater reliability scoring for various genres of writing, and Close Reading Strategies like Notice & Note and AVID marking the text and annotation strategies for grades 3-12
- District and school-level data analysis of benchmarks, evidence statements and performance summaries with teachers in Grades 3-12
- Saturday SAT Preparation Program for 11<sup>th</sup> grade students (ARP)
- AP Test Preparation Program for students enrolled in AP courses (ARP)
- NJSLA Saturday Intensification Program for grades 3-9
- Focused Instructional coaching to support all teachers
- Children's Literacy Initiative (CLI) job embedded coaching and professional development for teachers in Grades K-5 on foundational reading skills, comprehension, and small group work (ARP)
- After school academic programs: Really Great Reading for grades K-2 and Step Up to Writing for grades 3-5 (ARP)





# ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS INTERVENTIONS AND SUPPORTS

## Students with Disabilities

- Utilization of DRA assessment in all grade levels for In Class Support and Learning Language Disability (LLD) English programs
- DRA progress monitoring goals targeted during Guided Reading AND directive that these goals are selected as Individual Education Plan (IEP) Goals.
- Continue Souday Reading in all programs in grades K-8 to increase reading fluency and phonemic awareness in a multisensory approach
- Continue to utilize abridged literature per general education curriculum in LLD English
- Ensure that in class support teachers provide interventions in areas of weakness according to item analysis on benchmark assessment and IEP Goals and Objectives
- Revision of General Education curriculum for special education students with emphasis on multisensory learning and tiered instruction and NJSLS
- District and school level data analysis of benchmarks, evidence statements and root cause analysis with teachers in Grades K-8
- Handwriting without tears for Autism/MC/MD populations



# ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS INTERVENTIONS AND SUPPORTS

## English Language Learners

- Transitional Bilingual Program sustained to prepare students for a monolingual, general education setting by using native language to strengthen academic performance in English
- Alignment to the general education ELA Curriculum and Benchmark Assessments in both Bilingual ELA and ESL
  - Thinking Maps/Frame of Reference written into curricula to address compare and contrast, structural elements, character description,
  - Emphasis in curricula on metacognitive strategies
  - Multicultural/diverse and authentic texts for read alouds, guided reading, texts at various DRA/EDL Levels that are theme-aligned, and classic texts
  - Alignment of curricula to the New Jersey Curricular Frameworks
  - Continued revision of Project Based Learning activities and curricula to increase student choice and voice
  - Additional practice in Research Simulation Tasks, Literary Analysis Tasks, and Narrative Writing Tasks and types of writing
- Continuously review demographics and languages spoken to hire appropriate personnel and identify supports

# ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS INTERVENTIONS AND SUPPORTS

## English Language Learners

- **Department Support:**
  - Bilingual/ESL Instructional coaches are providing focused support to English language learners of other languages
  - Bilingual/ESL Supervisors and Bilingual/ESL Instructional Coaches are scheduled to attend CLI Meetings
  - Supervisor co-planning for District Professional Development Days for bilingual and ESL teachers
- **Professional Development:**
  - 15-hour Sheltered Instruction training based on understanding ELLs, instructional practices applicable to content-areas
  - Social and Emotional professional development provide by Bilingual Psychologist
  - Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Arriba La Lectura training in native language with scaffolding and native language resources
  - Children's Literacy Initiative (CLI) job embedded coaching and professional development for teachers in Grades K-5 on foundational reading skills, comprehension, and small group work
- **Materials:**
  - Utilize materials and programs in native language such as Esperanza, Heggerty, RAZKIDS, iRead and Achieve 3000
  - Translation of effective strategies to utilize in the classroom such as Notice and Note and Close Reading Strategies
- **Enrichment Programs focusing on effective ELA strategies:**
  - Point of Entry for grades K-8
  - Bilingual Achievement Strategies Program 9-12 ELL
  - Best of Both Worlds for grades 9-12



# MATHEMATICS

## INTERVENTIONS AND SUPPORTS

### General Education

- Curricular alignment to the New Jersey Curricular Framework
- Thinking Maps/Frame of Reference written into curricula to organize student thinking processes
- Problem solving to include extended constructed-response questions and low floor-high ceiling tasks (3-Act)
- Vertical progression for each math concept is outlined within the K-5 curriculum for acceleration or intervention
- Continue to address curricular changes, effective engagement strategies, differentiation, the use of manipulatives, and collaborative lesson planning (Grades K through Alg. 2)
- Dedicated days for NJSLA released items and Illustrative Mathematics (Grades 6 through Algebra II)
- Implementation of calculator and non-calculator active standards (Grades 6 through Algebra II)
- Clarification and examples of NJSLS mastery (Grades K through Algebra II) embedded within the unit plans
- NJSLA released and Illustrative Mathematics items embedded within pacing guide (Grades 6 through Alg. II)
- Adjusted pacing calendar to prioritize major and priority content standards
- incorporated prerequisite lessons necessary based on previous year's district benchmark data results
- Embedded reteach opportunities throughout the unit plans based on district benchmark results and teacher feedback
- Provided opportunities for grade level fluency diagnosis and practice throughout the curriculum in K-5
- NJSLA-M intensification plan for Grades 6 through Algebra 2
- Instructional Coaches support teachers through the district in grades K-12

# MATHEMATICS

## INTERVENTIONS AND SUPPORTS

### General Education

- Implementation of Mathematics Programs, enVision in Grades K-7; Agile Mind: Intensified Algebra (Grade 8); Carnegie Learning High School Math Solution for Geometry, Algebra I Advanced, and Algebra II HS courses
- Continue to utilize ST Math for Grades K-5; SuccessMaker (K-8); MATHia for Geometry, Algebra I Advanced, and Algebra II
- Provide on-site coaching with consultants for enVision (grades K-7); ST Math (grades K-5); Agile Mind: Intensified Algebra I (grade 8); Carnegie Learning (Geometry, Algebra I Advanced, Algebra II)
- Principals participate in district leadership meetings with math department (Grades K-5, 8, Geometry, Algebra I Advanced, & Algebra II)
- Guidance document (Look-fors) provided to principals to support instruction in Grades K-5, 8, Geometry, Algebra I Advanced & Algebra II
- Continue to use Agile Mind, enVision, and Carnegie Learning interactive tools and digital manipulatives (Grades 6-8, Geometry, Algebra I Advanced, Algebra II)
- Provide High School Saturday Intensification Program to support Geometry and Algebra II
- Provide High School Saturday SAT and Advanced Placement Programs to support college preparation (ARP)
- Provide selected students in Grades 3-12 with after school tutoring with certified Carnegie Learning Tutors (ARP)
- Implement Moving with Math (K); Building Fact Fluency (Grades K-5); and Legends of Learning virtual simulations, tutorials, and gamification during the Mathematics After School Academics program in grades K-5 (ARP)
- Utilize Agile Mind Academic Youth Development Program to address social emotional needs and metacognition to build math confidence in Grades 6-8 Mathematics After School Academics Program (ARP)



# MATHEMATICS INTERVENTIONS AND SUPPORTS

## Students with Disabilities

- Curricular Changes
- Envision grade 3 curriculum for Language & Learning Deficient classes
- Alignment to the New Jersey Curricular Frameworks
- Effective engagement are written into unit plan
- Differentiation and vertical progression for each topic is included for intervention
- Use of Moving with Math Foundations and Connections for grades K-4 to address skills not yet mastered
- Professional Development
- Accountable Talk and Engagement to increase student voice
- TouchMath for Autism and MC/MD special education students
- IXL math intervention program for grades 6-8 and HS





# MATHEMATICS INTERVENTIONS AND SUPPORTS

## English Language Learners

### ■ Department Support:

- Bilingual/ESL Instructional coaches are providing focused support to English language learners of other languages
- Bilingual/ESL Supervisors and Bilingual/ESL Instructional Coaches participate in enVision Mathematics and Agile Minds workshops and consultations

### ■ Professional Development

- 15-hour Sheltered Instruction training based on understanding ELLs, instructional practices applicable to content-areas
- Professional development in enVision Mathematics and Agile Minds

### ■ Materials:

- Utilize materials in native language to provide a concrete, representational, and abstract approach to learning mathematics
- Translation of mathematic materials and online platforms, such as SuccessMaker and IXL to better support the development of mathematical skills

### ■ Enrichment Programs focusing on effective math strategies:

- Point of Entry for grades K-8
- Bilingual Achievement Strategies Program 9-12 ELL
- Best of Both Worlds for grades 9



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ELIZABETH PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**September 2021**