



ELIZABETH PUBLIC SCHOOLS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

February 2022

BREAKING

NEWS



Potential Delayed Opening for Friday, February 25

Due to the potential for a State of Emergency declaration from Governor Phil Murphy, Elizabeth Public Schools may have a delayed opening on **Friday, February 25**

If a delayed opening is announced, the following adjustments will be made to the High School schedule:

- All students will report to school at 9:30 a.m.
- All staff report to school at 8:45 a.m.
- All principals, administrators, and security guards will report to school at 8:30 a.m.
- Breakfast will be served at 9:45 a.m.

If a delayed opening is announced, the following adjustments will be made for the Pre-Kindergarten through Grade 8 schedule:

- On a delayed opening, there will be no before care provided.
- All students report to school at 10:15 a.m.
- All staff report to school at 9:30 a.m.
- All principals, administrators and security guards will report to school at 9:00 a.m.
- Breakfast will be served at 10:30 a.m.

Students transported to and from school by school bus will be picked up **two (2) hours later than normally schedules.**



Potential Delayed Opening for Friday, February 25

- All Food Service Workers will report to school at their regularly scheduled times
- All Transportation Workers will report to work at their regularly scheduled times
- All custodial staff and inclement weather crews will report as directed by the Director of Plant, Property and Equipment
- Central Office Staff will report to work at 9:30 a.m.

A delayed opening announcement can be found or heard at the following locations:

www.epsnj.org

www.weatherclosing.com

www.cancellations.com

Radio Stations

WCBS-AM, WNBC-AM, WOR-710 AM, NJ 101.5 FM,
WCTC-1450 AM, WMGQ-MAGIC 98.3 FM.

Television Stations

News-12 New Jersey, Verizon Fios1, WCBS-TV, WABC-TV and FOX 5/WNYW.



EBOE Member Rosa Moreno Ortega Receives Fulbright Award

Rosa Moreno Ortega Receives Fulbright U.S. Distinguished Teaching Award to Colombia to Assist Colombian School in Transitioning to a Spanish-English Bilingual Model

The U.S. Department of State and the Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board are pleased to announce that Rosa Moreno Ortega of New Jersey has been selected for the Fulbright Distinguished Awards in Teaching Short-Term Program (Fulbright DAST).



EBOE Member Rosa Moreno Ortega Receives Fulbright Award (cont.)

Moreno Ortega is one of fourteen U.S. citizens who will travel to six countries around the world in 2022 on the Fulbright DAST Program.

The Fulbright Distinguished Awards in Teaching Short-Term Program sends expert U.S. K–12 educators to participating countries to support projects in schools, teacher training colleges, government ministries, or educational nongovernmental organizations, as identified by U.S. Embassies and Fulbright Commissions.



EBOE Member Rosa Moreno Ortega Receives Fulbright Award (cont.)

As a Fulbrighter, Moreno Ortega will share knowledge and foster meaningful connections across communities in the United States and Colombia. Fulbrighters expand their professional networks, often continuing collaborations started abroad and laying the groundwork for forging future partnerships between schools and institutions.

Upon returning to their classrooms and schools in the United States, they share their stories and often become active supporters of international exchange, encouraging colleagues and students to go abroad.



EBOE Member Rosa Moreno Ortega Receives Fulbright Award (cont.)

As Fulbright alumni, their careers are enriched by joining a network of thousands of esteemed professionals, many of whom are leaders in their fields. Fulbright alumni include 61 Nobel Prize laureates, 89 Pulitzer Prize recipients, and 40 who have served as a head of state or government.

The Fulbright Program is the U.S. government's flagship international educational exchange program and is supported by the people of the United States and partner countries around the world. Since 1946, the Fulbright Program has provided more than 400,000 participants from over 160 countries the opportunity to study, teach and conduct research, exchange ideas, and contribute to finding solutions to shared international concerns.





Development of New 5-Year Strategic Plan



Development of New 5-Year Strategic Plan



EPS Strategic Plan Development Homepage

Elizabeth Public Schools (EPS) is working with **FourPoint Education Partners** and The Valbrun Consulting Group (TVCG) to develop a five-year strategic plan for the district. A webpage has been created specifically for this initiative.

You may access this page using three different methods:

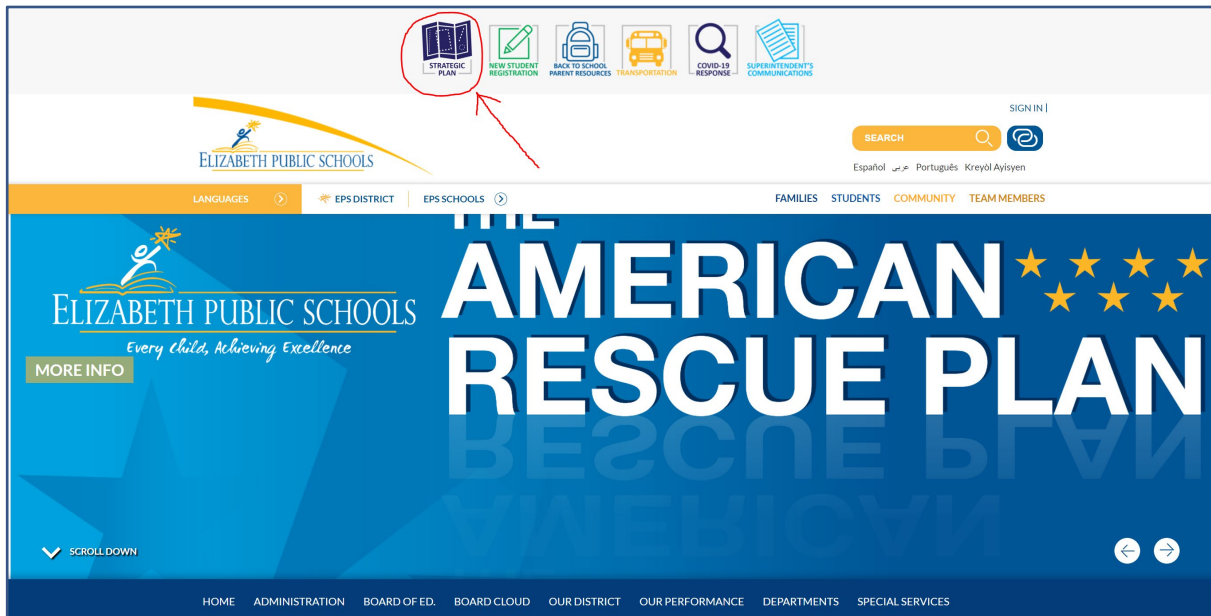
1) Type into your web browser's address bar the following URL:

www.epsnj.org/StrategicPlan2022

Development of New 5-Year Strategic Plan

EPS Strategic Plan Development Homepage (cont.)

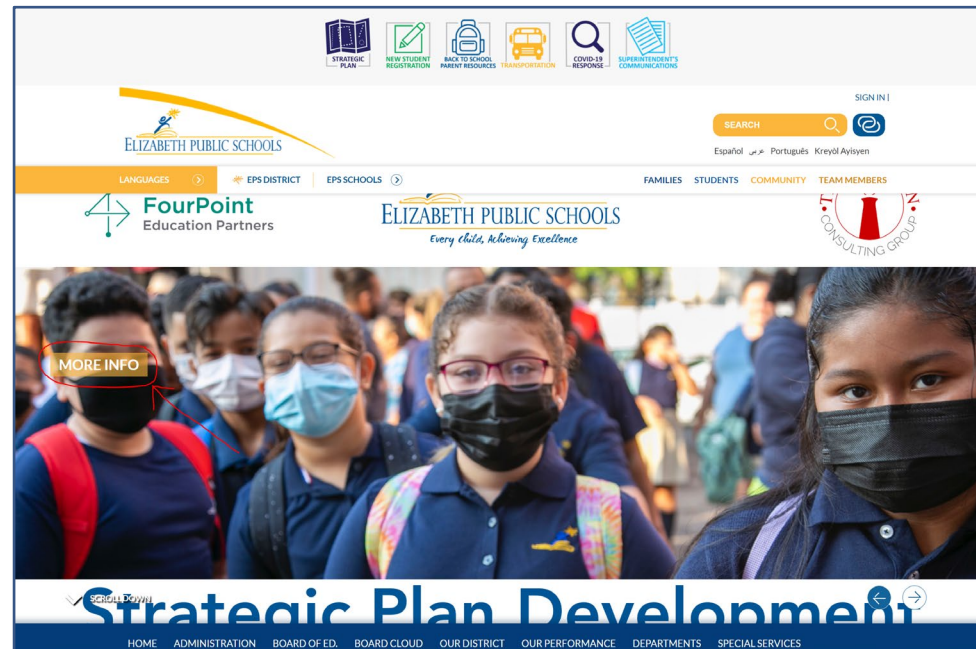
2) Click on the Strategic Plan icon  at the top of the district home page (www.epsnj.org) or under the multimedia gallery



Development of New 5-Year Strategic Plan

EPS Strategic Plan Development Homepage (cont.)

3) Click on “More Info” on the Strategic Plan banner in the district homepage (www.epsnj.org) multimedia gallery





Development of New 5-Year Strategic Plan



EPS Strategic Plan Interviews/Focus Groups

In the first phase of our strategic plan development, data will be collected and analyzed, allowing FourPoint Education Partners to produce a report that summarizes EPS' strengths and challenges and makes recommendations in five domain areas: teaching and learning, school improvement, special populations, family and community engagement, and system alignment.

FourPoint Education Partners held 71 interviews/focus group sessions the week of February 7, which included community leaders, parents, teachers, high school students, principals/vice principals, and central office personnel.

Development of New 5-Year Strategic Plan

EPS Strategic Plan Parent Online Surveys

Another important aspect of data collection is parent online surveys.

The Elizabeth Board of Education invites all Elizabeth Public Schools Parents and Guardians to serve an active role in helping shape the direction of our schools for the years ahead by providing valuable feedback about school and district practices.



Rosa E.
Moreno-Ortega
President



Iliana
Chevres
Vice President



Nathalie
Alcaide-
Hernandez



Diane
Barbosa



Maria Z.
Carvalho



Charlene B.
Dorgely



Jerry D.
Jacobs



Stanley
Neron



Stephanie
Goncalves
Pestana



Board of Education

Board of Education

Board of Education

IS HEREBY GIVEN in accordance with the Open Public Meeting
at the location of the Board of Education Agenda/Business Meeting
Monday, February 24, 2022 previously scheduled for Elizabeth H
Early L Cicarelli Academy is hereby changed to Duran Sports
Street, Elizabeth, NJ. The Board will open the Agenda/Busi
at 6:30 p.m. The Board reserves the right to go into Private



Development of New 5-Year Strategic Plan



EPS Strategic Plan Parent Online Surveys

Information about these surveys have been sent to families via email, text message, and automated phone message. We have made the parent surveys available on the district's strategic plan webpage in English, Spanish, Portuguese, Haitian Creole, and Arabic.

The survey should take approximately 20 minutes to complete.

Your input is vital and we look forward to working with you to ensure the future success of our schools.

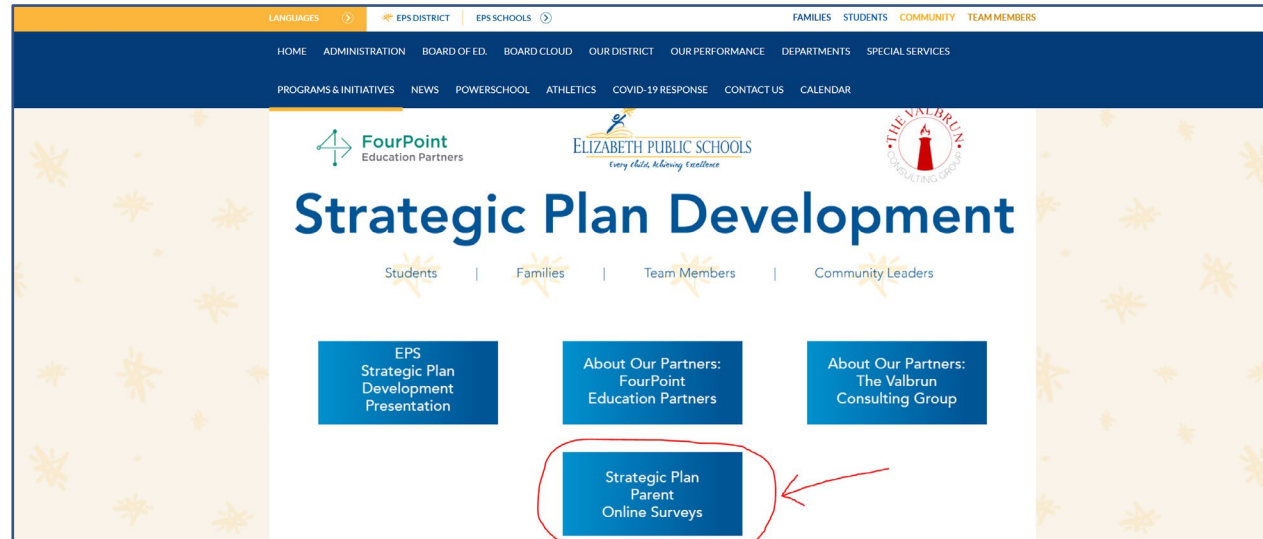
Surveys must be completed by Monday, February 28, 2022.

Development of New 5-Year Strategic Plan

EPS Strategic Plan Parent Online Surveys (cont.)

Parents/Guardians may access the surveys by taking the following steps:

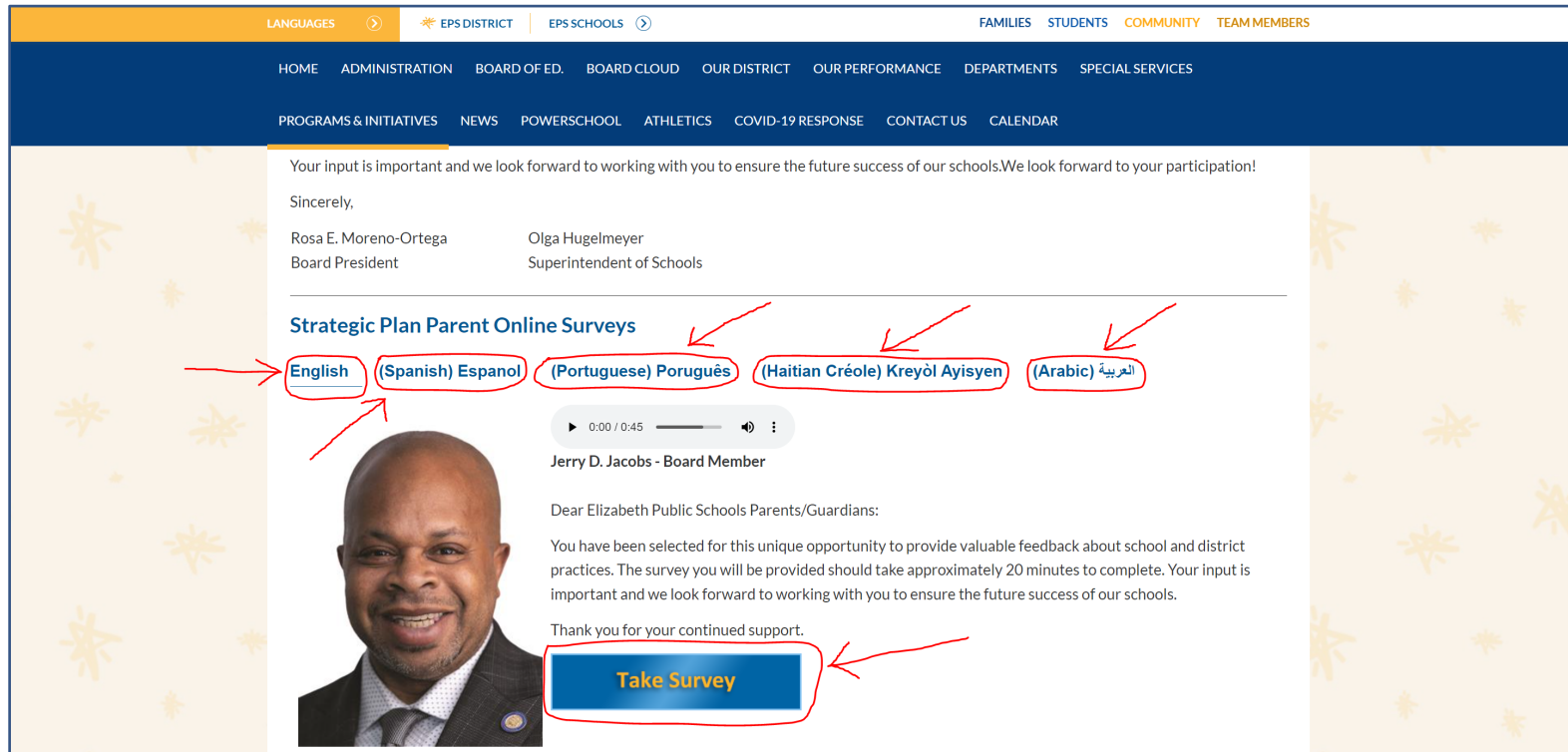
1) Go to the strategic plan webpage (www.epsnj.org/strategicplan2022) and click on the “Strategic Plan Parent Online Surveys” button



Development of New 5-Year Strategic Plan

EPS Strategic Plan Parent Online Surveys (cont.)

2) Select your language at the bottom of the page and click the “Take Survey” button



The screenshot shows the EPS Strategic Plan Parent Online Surveys webpage. The page features a navigation bar with links for LANGUAGES, EPS DISTRICT, EPS SCHOOLS, FAMILIES, STUDENTS, COMMUNITY, and TEAM MEMBERS. Below the navigation bar, there is a section titled "Strategic Plan Parent Online Surveys" with a video player and a "Take Survey" button. The language selection options are: English, (Spanish) Espanol, (Portuguese) Português, (Haitian Créole) Kreyòl Ayisyen, and (Arabic) العربية. Red arrows point to the language selection options and the "Take Survey" button.

LANGUAGES > EPS DISTRICT EPS SCHOOLS > FAMILIES STUDENTS COMMUNITY TEAM MEMBERS

HOME ADMINISTRATION BOARD OF ED. BOARD CLOUD OUR DISTRICT OUR PERFORMANCE DEPARTMENTS SPECIAL SERVICES

PROGRAMS & INITIATIVES NEWS POWERSCHOOL ATHLETICS COVID-19 RESPONSE CONTACT US CALENDAR

Your input is important and we look forward to working with you to ensure the future success of our schools. We look forward to your participation!

Sincerely,

Rosa E. Moreno-Ortega Board President Olga Hugelmeyer Superintendent of Schools

Strategic Plan Parent Online Surveys

English (Spanish) Espanol (Portuguese) Português (Haitian Créole) Kreyòl Ayisyen (Arabic) العربية

0:00 / 0:45

Jerry D. Jacobs - Board Member

Dear Elizabeth Public Schools Parents/Guardians:

You have been selected for this unique opportunity to provide valuable feedback about school and district practices. The survey you will be provided should take approximately 20 minutes to complete. Your input is important and we look forward to working with you to ensure the future success of our schools.

Thank you for your continued support.

Take Survey



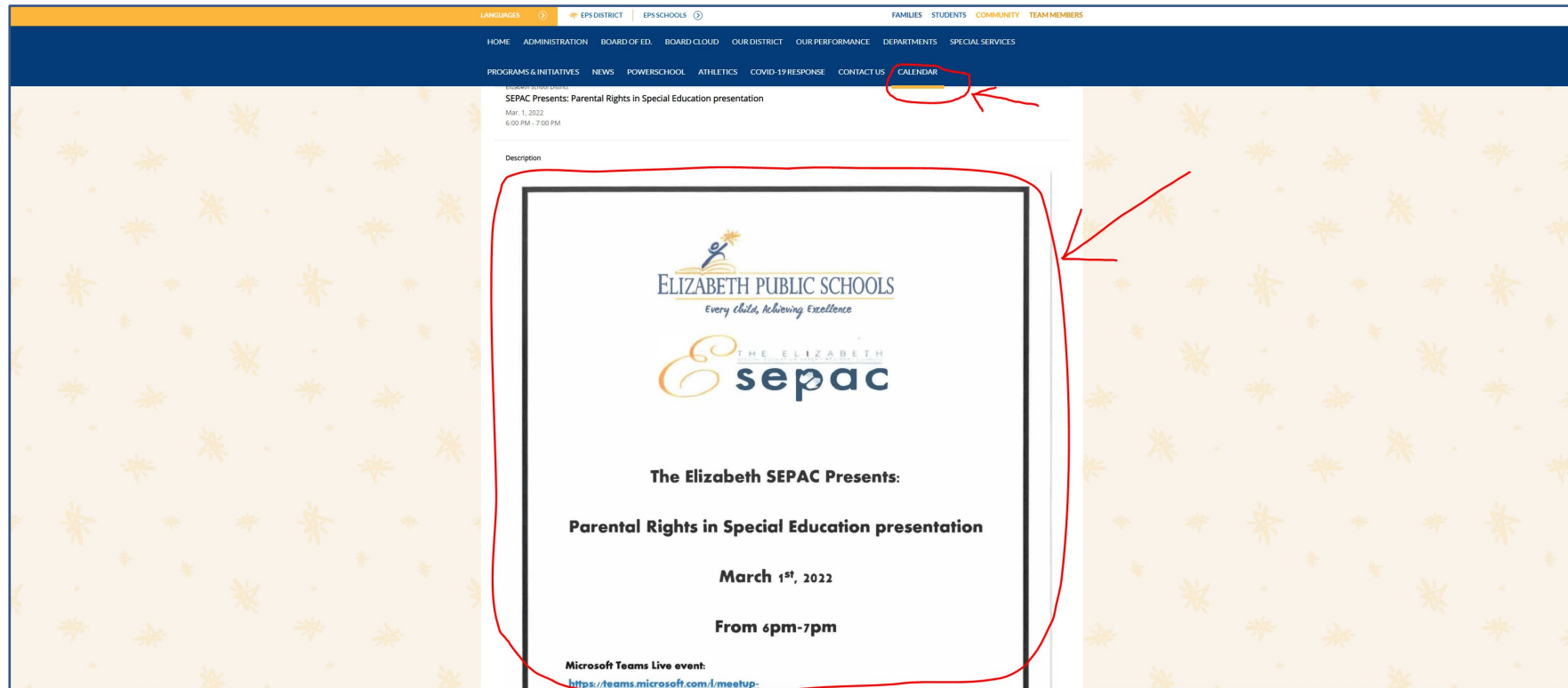
Parental Rights In Special Education

March 1
6-7 PM



Parental Rights In Special Education Meeting

To join the ESEPAC virtual meeting on Microsoft Teams on March 1 at 6 PM, visit the district homepage (www.epsnj.org), click on “Calendar”, and click on the ESEPAC flyer for the March 1 event.





ELIZABETH PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Every Child, Achieving Excellence

Early Childhood Lottery Registration

February 24 –
March 25



Early Childhood Lottery Registration

For more information about the Early Childhood Lottery Registration, including to make an appointment to register, click on “More Info” on the Early Childhood banner in the district homepage (www.epsnj.org) multimedia gallery.





ELIZABETH PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Every Child, Achieving Excellence

Gifted & Talented Program Application

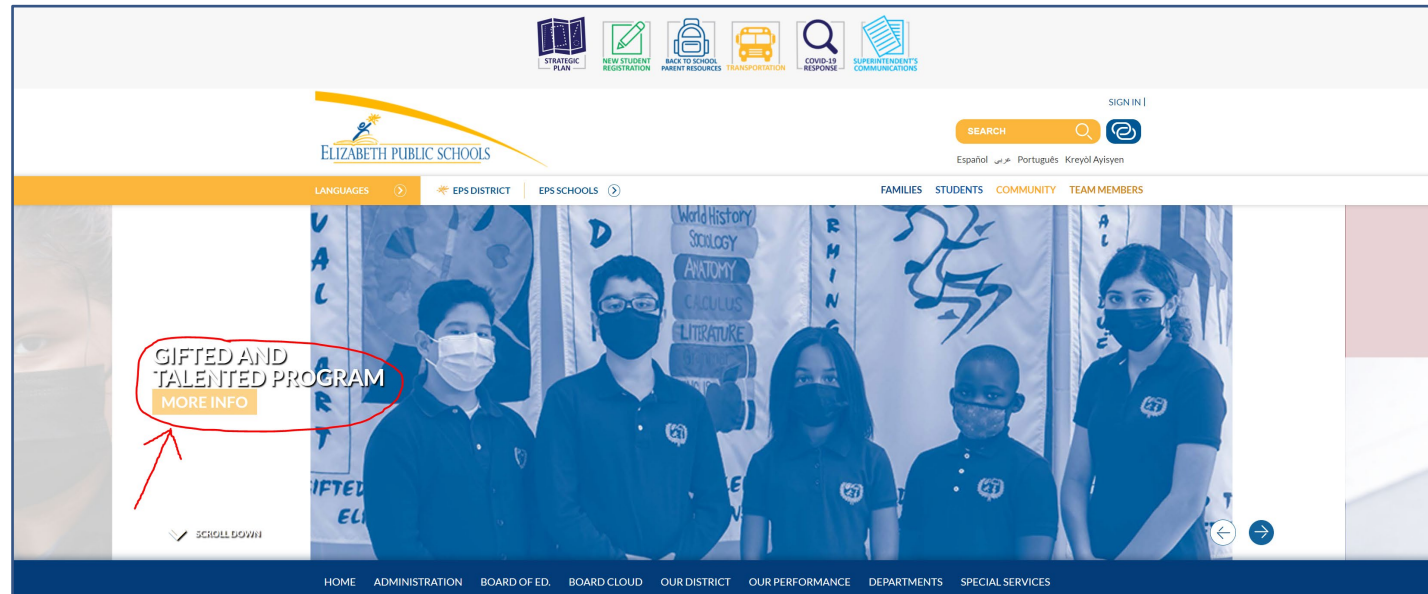
February 23 –
April 1



Gifted and Talented Program

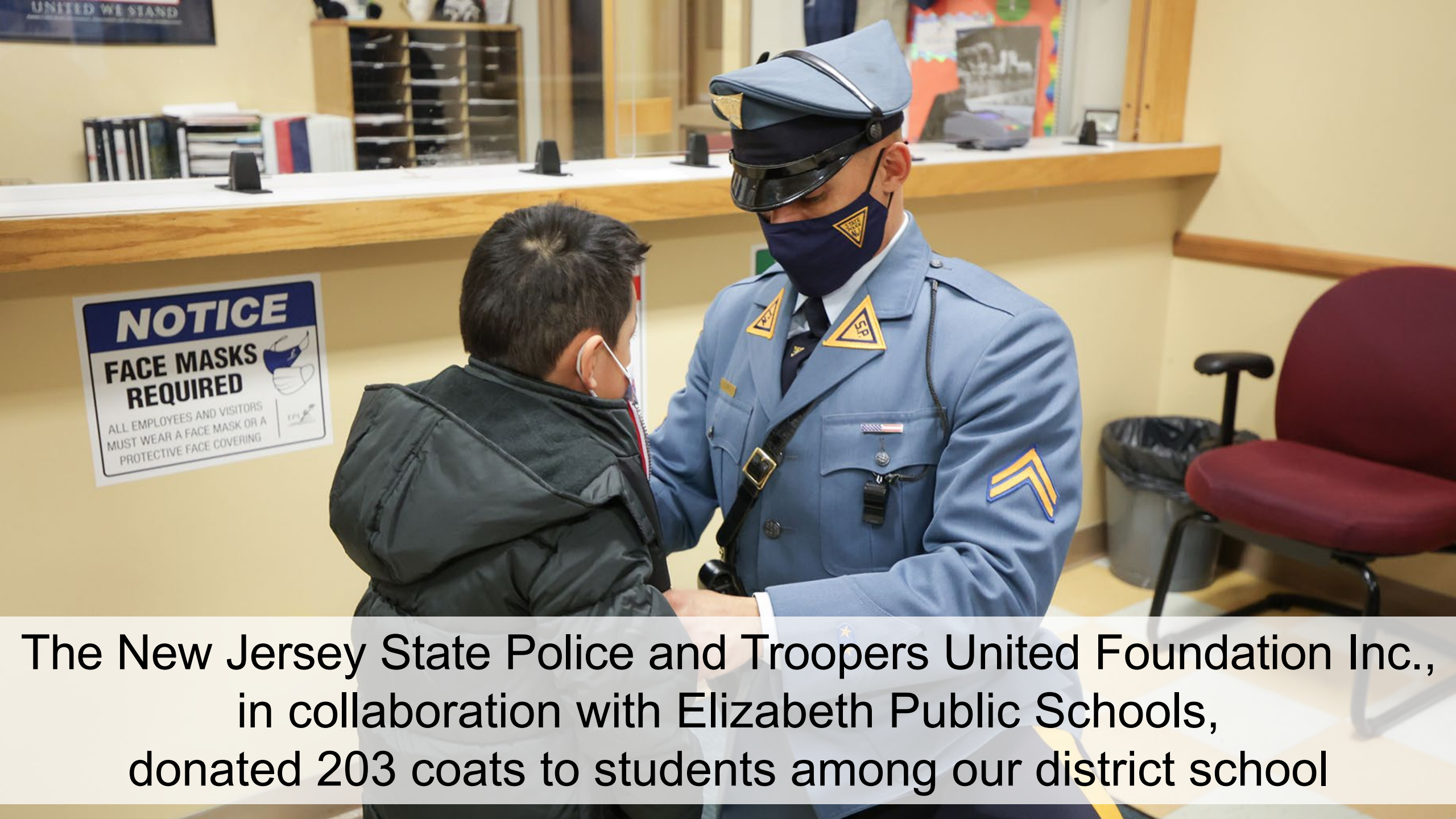
We were excited to see over 250 parents participate in last night's Gifted and Talented program information session.

For more information about the Gifted and Talented Program, including how to obtain an application, click on “More Info” on the Gifted and Talented banner in the district homepage (www.epsnj.org) multimedia gallery.



10th Annual Coat Drive





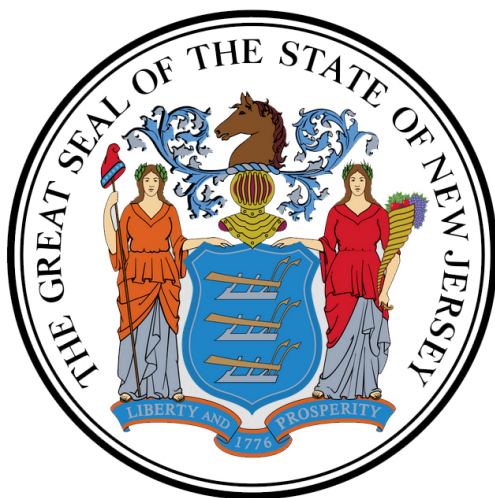
The New Jersey State Police and Troopers United Foundation Inc.,
in collaboration with Elizabeth Public Schools,
donated 203 coats to students among our district school



CENTERS FOR DISEASE
CONTROL AND PREVENTION

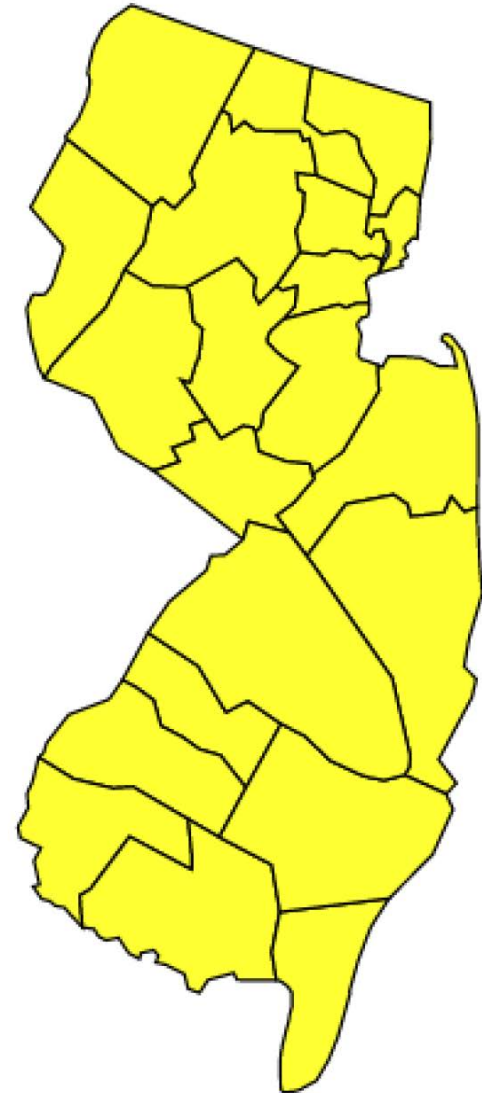


COVID-19 Guidance Information



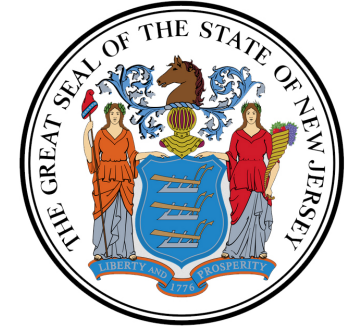
COVID-19 Transmission Level – Union County

As of February 5, 2022, all 21 counties in the State of New Jersey have been given the **YELLOW** designation on the state's COVID-19 transmission level map, which indicates there is a **Moderate Risk** of COVID transmission.



Expiration of Executive Order 251

On Feb 7, 2022, Governor Phil Murphy announced that **Executive Order 251**, the mask mandate for all New Jersey schools, **will expire on March 7, 2022.**



Elizabeth Public Schools continues to monitor COVID cases both in the learning community and greater community.

Mayor Bollwage reported yesterday 89 cases remain open, 70 new cases overnight, and 5 deaths. There has been a continued decrease in cases and the mayor believes the reported data related to deaths is the state catching up for the past 6 weeks.

EPS will be issuing a communication related to the mask mandate on **March 4.**

Updated NJDOH Guidance



Despite the expiration of Executive Order 251 on March 7, 2022, **masks must continue to be worn by all passengers on buses**, including school buses, regardless of vaccination status per CDC's Federal Order. Until lifted, the only exception is for children under the age of two, and those who cannot safely wear a mask.

Updated NJDOH Guidance



When the COVID-19 risk level of community transmission is moderate (yellow) schools may consider implementing masking policies for activities or settings where there is increased risk of transmission such as activities in which increased exhalation occurs (auditorium, athletic activities, etc.).

Staying Home When Sick/Exposed to COVID

Providing students and team members a safe learning environment is our top priority. Students and team members should stay home if they:

- Have tested positive (viral test) for COVID-19
- Have pending COVID-19 test results
- Are sick
- Are not fully vaccinated and have had close contact* with a person with COVID-19 in the past 14 days

Exclusions Criteria for Persons with COVID-19, COVID-19 Compatible Symptoms and Close Contacts

Union County is currently designated **YELLOW**, which indicates there is a **Moderate Risk** of COVID transmission. Below are the exclusions based on being in a red designated region

Exclusion Type	Moderate Risk Exclusion Protocol
COVID-19 positive (viral test), symptomatic or asymptomatic	Exclude according to COVID-19 exclusion criteria Identify and exclude unvaccinated school-based close contacts.
COVID-19 – compatible symptoms but <u>not tested</u> for COVID-19	If no potential exposure to a COVID-19 case in the last 5 days AND has an alternative diagnosis from a healthcare provider, follow NJDOH School Exclusion List If no potential exposure to a COVID-19 case in the last 5 days but without an alternative diagnosis from a healthcare provider, exclude according to COVID-19 exclusion criteria If person has potential exposure to COVID-19 in the last 5 days, exclude according to COVID-19 exclusion criteria

Exclusions Criteria for Persons with COVID-19, COVID-19 Compatible Symptoms and Close Contacts (cont.)

Exclusion Type	Moderate Risk Exclusion Protocol
COVID-19 – compatible symptoms and Negative COVID-19 test (viral test) ¹	Follow NJDOH School Exclusion List Symptomatic individuals with high likelihood of COVID-19 (i.e., who are close contacts of a confirmed case or who have had suspected exposure to a person with COVID-19 AND who meet the criteria for quarantine AND have not had COVID-19 in the past 3 months) who test negative by rapid antigen test should undergo confirmatory testing with molecular test (i.e. RT-PCR)
Close contact of staff or student with COVID-19 ^{2,3}	Close contacts who meet the criteria for quarantine should be excluded for 5 days ⁴ from date of last contact.

¹ In all risk levels, students and staff who meet the criteria for quarantine and who are household members of a student/staff member with COVID-19 compatible symptoms that meets COVID-19 Exclusion Criteria should be excluded from school until the symptomatic individual receives a negative test result. If the symptomatic individual tests positive, the household member will need to quarantine.

² Persons who do not meet the criteria for quarantine who have close contact with someone with COVID-19 do NOT need to be excluded from school if they are asymptomatic but should be referred for testing 5 days after last close contact.

³ Individuals who have been diagnosed with COVID-19 in the past 90 days who have close contact with someone with COVID-19 and are asymptomatic do NOT need to be excluded from school and do not need to be tested.

⁴ Continue to wear a well-fitting mask when around others at home and in public (indoors and outdoors) for the full 10 days after the last close contact

Exclusions From School

Parents should not send students to school when sick. For school settings the NJ Department of Health recommends that students with the following symptoms be promptly isolated from others and excluded from school:

- At least **two** of the following symptoms: fever (measure or subjective), chills, rigors (shivers), myalgia (muscle aches), headache, sore throat, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea, fatigue, congestion or runny nose; **OR**
- At least **one** of the following symptoms: cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, new olfactory disorder, new taste disorder

Exclusions From School

Tips for symptom checking

- Recognize your symptoms
- Visit a pediatrician/doctor if you believe your symptoms are illness related
- Get tested if you are experiencing symptoms related to COVID-19 and have suspicion you may have COVID
- Stay home while COVID test results are pending

Source: Mayo Clinic

PIX
NEW YORK'S VERY OWN

SYMPTOM COMPARISON

	COVID-19	FLU	ALLERGIES
Cough	✓	✓	—
Fever	✓	✓	
Muscle aches	✓	✓	
Tiredness	✓	✓	—
Sneezing	Rare		✓
Sore throat	✓	✓	Rare
Runny/stuffy nose	✓	✓	✓
Nausea/vomiting	—	—	
Shortness of breath	✓	✓	
Diarrhea	—	—	
Loss of taste or smell	✓	Rare	—

— Sometimes ✓ Common

Exclusions From School – Close Contact

*A **close contact** is defined by the CDC as someone who was less than 6 feet away from infected person (laboratory-confirmed or a clinical diagnosis) for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period (for example, three individual 5-minute exposures for a total of 15 minutes).

- This definition **excludes students in K-12 classroom settings or structured outdoor settings where mask use can be observed** who were between 3 to 6 feet of an infected student (laboratory-confirmed or a clinical diagnosis) if both the infected student and the exposed student(s) correctly and consistently wore well-fitting masks the entire time.
- **This exception does not apply to teachers, staff, or other adults in the indoor classroom setting.**

Exclusions From School – Close Contact (cont.)

Exposed close contacts who have no COVID-19 symptoms in the following groups do not need to be excluded from school:

- **Age 12 or older and have received all recommended vaccine doses, including boosters and additional primary shots for some immunocompromised people.**
- **Age 5-11 years and completed the primary series of COVID-19 vaccines.**
- **Had confirmed COVID-19 within the last 90 days (tested positive using a [viral test](#)).**



CITY OF ELIZABETH
COVID-19

Testing - Vaccination Information



Mayor J. Christian Bollwage
The City of Elizabeth, and
The Department of Health and Human Services
Presents:

COVID-19 TESTING

Monday-Friday 9:00AM-5:00PM

Wednesday 9:00AM-8:00PM

Saturday 10:00AM-3:00PM

STEPHEN SAMPSON CENTER
800 Anna Street
Elizabeth, NJ

Health Insured Individuals Please Bring:
Insurance Information & Photo ID
Uninsured Individuals: Photo ID
No out of pocket cost to participants

BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

Register online at: testnj.online

Or scan this QRcode:



PLEASE NOTE:

All participants must wear masks.
Testing is taking place indoors
This is not a drive-thru testing site
We do not have rapid test



Mayor J. Christian Bollwage
The City of Elizabeth, and
The Department of Health and Human Services
Presents:

PRUEBAS DE COVID-19

Lunes - Viernes 9am - 5pm

Miércoles 9am - 8pm

Sábado 10am - 3pm

STEPHEN SAMPSON CENTER
800 Anna Street
Elizabeth, NJ

Individuos con seguro de salud por favor traigan:
Información del seguro e identificación con foto
Individuos sin seguro: Identificación con foto
Sin costo de bolsillo para los participantes

SOLO CON CITA

Regístrese en línea en: TestNJ.Online

TENGA EN CUENTA:

Todos los participantes deben usar máscaras.
Las pruebas se llevan a cabo en el interior.
Este no es un sitio de prueba de manejo.
No disponemos de test rápido.

Or scan this barcode:





**Neighborhood Health Services Corporation
in Collaboration with The City of Elizabeth**



**GET YOUR COVID-19
VACCINE**



AGES 5+ ARE WELCOME!

The NHSC has collaborated with the City of Elizabeth to distribute COVID-19 vaccines to children 5 years of age and older. Boosters available for ages 12+. Please register at the link below for NJVSS or scan the QR code. **Walk-ins are welcome until 5:00 P.M.**

Free rapid COVID-19 at-home test kits, while supplies last!

**WHEN: Every Tuesday
1:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M.**

**WHERE: Peterstown Community Center
418 Palmer St., Elizabeth, NJ 07202**

Pre-REGISTER USING THE LINK BELOW OR SCAN THE QR CODE

(After registering on NJVSS, press submit, no need to book appointment slot)



<https://covidvaccine.nj.gov/en-US/>

WWW.NHSCNJ.ORG



**Corporación de Servicios de Salud Vecinal
in Colaboración con la Ciudad de Elizabeth**



**OBTENGA SU COVID-19
VACUNA**



¡LOS MAYORES DE 5 AÑOS SON BIENVENIDOS!

El NHSC ha colaborado con la Ciudad de Elizabeth para distribuir vacunas COVID-19 a niños de 5 años de edad en adelante. Refuerzos disponibles para mayores de 12 años. Por favor, regístrese en el siguiente enlace para NJVSS o escanee el código QR. **Los walk-ins son bienvenidos hasta las 5:00 p.m. ¡Equipos de prueba rápidos para el hogar de COVID-19 gratuitos, hasta agotar existencias!**

**CUÁNDO: Cada Martes
1:00 P.M. a 5:00 P.M.**

**DÓNDE: Centro Comunitario de Peterstown
418 Palmer St., Elizabeth, New Jersey 07202**

REGÍSTRESE UTILIZANDO EL SIGUIENTE ENLACE O ESCANEE EL CÓDIGO QR

(Después de registrarse en NJVSS, presione enviar, sin necesidad de reservar espacio para citas)



<https://covidvaccine.nj.gov/en-US/>

WWW.NHSCNJ.ORG





To make an appointment at any of Union County's free COVID-19 vaccination clinics, visit:

ucnj.org/covid19/vax.

Any Union County resident may use any of these clinics, regardless of their hometown.



Pfizer Vaccine (5 and Older) and Pfizer Booster

Union County Vaccination Clinic

Warinanco Ice Skating Center

1 Park Drive – Warinanco Park, Roselle

Open every Tuesday and Thursday from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
except for major holidays.

No Moderna or J&J vaccine offered at this site.



Moderna, Pfizer (12 and Older), and J&J vaccines

Union County Vaccination Clinic
Downs Hall – Kean University
1000 Morris Avenue, Union Township

Open every Friday from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., except for major holidays.

Boosters available.



Moderna, Pfizer (5 and Older), and J&J vaccines

Union County Vaccination Clinic
Plainfield High School
950 Park Avenue, Plainfield

Open every Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.,
except for major holidays.

Boosters available



*Vaccines for Home Bound Residents

Union County residents who are home bound or have difficulty leaving their home can use a new toll-free number to make an appointment to receive a COVID-19 vaccination at home. The number to call is **1-833-256-2478**, Monday through Friday between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Residents can also call during off-hours to leave a voice message requesting a callback. Messages are returned on the following business day.



Free COVID Testing Sites

Union County also provides free COVID-19 tests at:

Kean University
1000 Morris Avenue
Union Township
Nasal Test Only
Appointment recommended

Gerald B. Green Building
200 West Second Street
Plainfield
Saliva Test Only
Walk up only- no appointment needed

Plainfield Performing Arts Center
724 Park Avenue
Plainfield
PCR Saliva and Rapid Nasal Tests
Walk up only- no appointment needed

For more information visit:

ucnj.org/covid19/testing/covid19testing



ELIZABETH PUBLIC SCHOOLS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

January 2022