



ELIZABETH PUBLIC SCHOOLS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

April 2026



Panorama Family Survey

February 17 –
April 24



FAMILY SURVEY

PLEASE COMPLETE THE SURVEY BETWEEN
FEBRUARY 17th
THROUGH **APRIL 24th**

SURVEY IS LESS THAN
5 MINUTES

SURVEY IS AVAILABLE
IN MULTIPLE
LANGUAGES

WE WANT TO
HEAR FROM **YOU!**

FEEDBACK FROM OUR
FAMILIES
IS IMPORTANT!

USE YOUR PHONE TO
SCAN THE CODE
TO ACCESS THE SURVEY



surveys.panoramaed.com/elizabeth/spring26family/surveys



ENCUESTA FAMILIAR

POR FAVOR RESPONDE ENTRE
el 17 de FEBRERO
HASTA **el 24 de ABRIL**

LA ENCUESTA SOLO TOMA
5 MINUTOS

LA ENCUESTA
ESTÁ DISPONIBLE
EN MÚLTIPLES
IDIOMAS

¡QUEREMOS
SABER DE **USTED!**

¡SU OPINIÓN
ES MUY
IMPORTANTE!

PARA ACCEDER LA ENCUESTA
USE SU CELULAR PARA
ESCANEAR EL CÓDIGO



surveys.panoramaed.com/elizabeth/spring26family/surveys

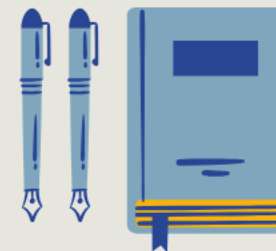
DISTRICT FINANCIAL AID NIGHTS



**STUDENTS & PARENTS
MUST BRING LAPTOPS**



**MAY 12
5:00PM - 7:00PM**



**JOHN E. DWYER
TECHNOLOGY ACADEMY
123 PEARL STREET**

FAFSA:

- ▶▶▶ CREATE FSA ID PRIOR TO ATTENDING AT WWW.FAFSA.GOV
- ▶▶▶ MUST BRING LAPTOP & TAX DOCUMENTS FOR FAFSA COMPLETION WORKSHOPS

SCHOLARSHIPS:

- ▶▶▶ INFORMATION, APPLICATIONS & ASSISTANCE COMPLETING WILL BE PROVIDED

▶▶▶ **PRESENTATIONS IN ENGLISH & SPANISH** ◀◀◀



High Schools Registration

April 10 – April 24





ELIZABETH PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Every Child, Achieving Excellence

8th Grade Promotion Ceremonies

June 24 - June 25



8th Grade Promotion Ceremonies

June 24 – 9:00 am

School
George Washington Academy School No. 1
Nicholas S. LaCorte – Peterstown School No. 3
Joseph Battin School No. 4
Elmora School No. 12
Benjamin Franklin School No. 13
Abraham Lincoln School No. 14
Madison – Monroe School No. 16

All 8th Grade students are required to attend school through Thursday, June 25, 2026. Diplomas will be issued on the last day.

8th Grade Promotion Ceremonies

June 24 – 9:00 am (cont.)

School
Robert Morris School No. 18
Woodrow Wilson School No. 19
John Marshall School No. 20
William F. Halloran School No. 22
Sonia Sotomayor School No. 25
Dr. Albert Einstein Academy School No. 29

All 8th Grade students are required to attend school through Thursday, June 25, 2026. Diplomas will be issued on the last day.

8th Grade Promotion Ceremonies

June 25 – 9:00 am

School
Winfield Scott School No. 2
Mabel G. Holmes School No. 5
Toussaint L'Ouverture – Marquis de Lafayette School No. 6
Terence C. Reilly School No. 7
iPrep Academy School No. 8
Jerome Dunn Academy School No. 9
Christopher Columbus School No. 15

All 8th Grade students are required to attend school through Thursday, June 25, 2026. Diplomas will be issued on the last day.

8th Grade Promotion Ceremonies

June 25 – 9:00 am (cont.)

School
Victor Mravlag School No. 21
Nicholas Murray Butler School No. 23
Dr. Orlando Edreira Academy School No. 26
Dr. Antonia Pantoja School No. 27
Juan Pablo Duarte – José Julián Martí School No. 28
Chessie Dentley Roberts Academy School No. 30

All 8th Grade students are required to attend school through Thursday, June 25, 2026. Diplomas will be issued on the last day.



ELIZABETH PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Every Child, Achieving Excellence

High School Graduation/ Class Awards Ceremonies

June 24-June 25



High School Graduation/Class Award Ceremonies

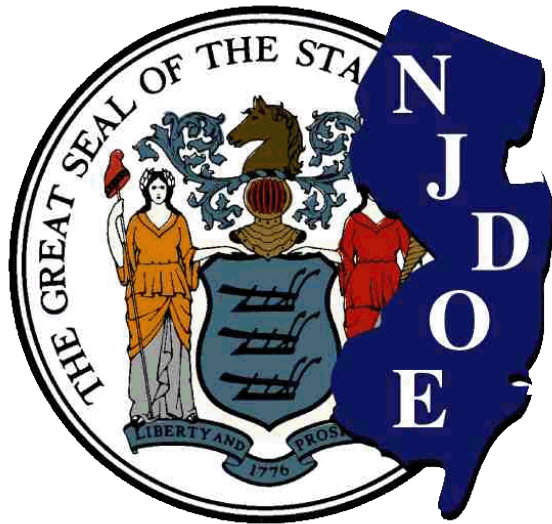
Thomas G. Dunn Sports Center

High School	Date	Time	Arrival
John E. Dwyer Technology Academy	June 24	8:30am	7:30am
Thomas Jefferson Arts Academy	June 24	11:30am	10:30am
Katherine Johnson, Dorothy Vaughan, Mary Jackson STEM Academy	June 24	2:30pm	1:30pm
Alexander Hamilton Preparatory Academy	June 24	5:30pm	4:30pm
Admiral William F. Halsey, Jr. Health & Public Safety Academy	June 25	8:30am	7:30am
J. Christian Bollwage Finance Academy	June 25	11:30am	10:30am
Elizabeth High School – Frank J. Cicarell Academy	June 25	2:30pm	1:30pm
Thomas A. Edison Career and Technical Academy	June 25	5:30pm	4:30pm

All 12th Grade students are required to attend school through Thursday, June 25, 2026.



Student Assessments Update



Spring 2026 Assessment Calendar

Assessment	Date(s)	Participants
Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM)	April 7 – May 22	Students in grades 3-8 and 11 in place of NJSLA
Advanced Placement (AP)	May 4 – May 15	High School students enrolled in AP courses
NJ Student Learning Assessment (NJ SLA) ELA, Math, Science	April 27 – May 22	Students in grades 3-8 and high school Specific dates per grade level are on the District Website



News From Central
Elizabeth Public Schools, Elizabeth, NJ

NEW NJ DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION COMMISSIONER DR. LILY LAUX VISITS EPS



Elizabeth Public Schools welcomed newly appointed New Jersey Commissioner of Education Dr. Lily Laux on April 17, beginning with her arrival at the James P. Mitchell Building. She was greeted by Senator Joseph P. Cryan, Assemblywoman Annette Quijano, Union County Interim Executive County Superintendent Daryl Palmieri, EPS Superintendent Dr. Olga Hugelmeyer, Elizabeth Board of Education Vice President Stephanie Goncalves Pestana, EBOE members Diane Barbosa and Jerry D. Jacobs, EPS Assistant Superintendents Dr. Jennifer Cedeño, Rafael A. Cortes, Jr., and Judy Finch-Johnson, and EPS School Business Administrator/Board Secretary Harold E. Kennedy, Jr.



Following a conversation about some of the district's recent accomplishments and initiatives, the group traveled over to Elizabeth High School – Frank J. Cicarell Academy where they were greeted by the school's administration and students, 2026-2027 Union County Teacher of the Year Dr. Alice Debowski, and 2026 Counselor of the County (Union) Dayna Ferreira. They were treated to a performance by the EHS Advanced Jazz Band before making a final stop at Alexander Hamilton Preparatory Academy where they had the opportunity to witness the announcement of Hamilton being named an AVID National Demonstration School.

HAMILTON PREPARATORY ACADEMY NAMED AVID NATIONAL DEMONSTRATION SCHOOL



Alexander Hamilton Preparatory Academy has been selected as an Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) National Demonstration School in an announcement made during a validation event at the school.

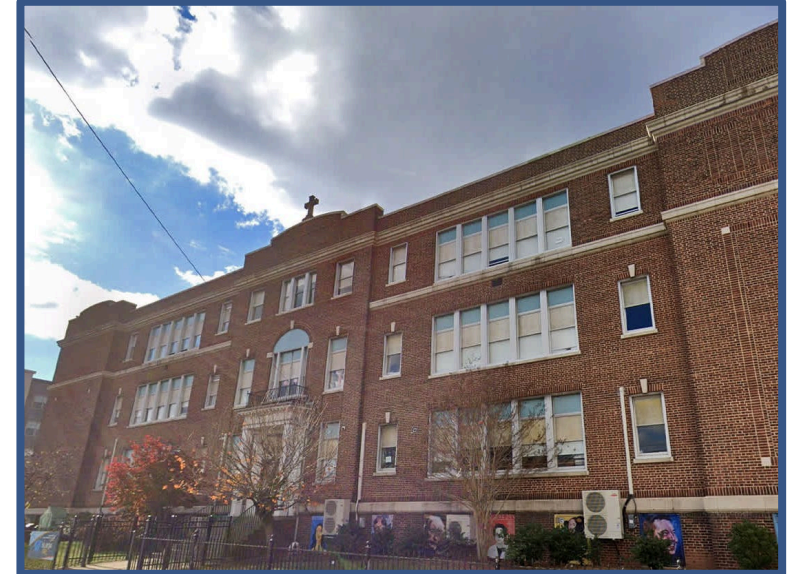
AVID is a nonprofit educational organization with the mission to close the opportunity gap by preparing all students for college and career readiness and success in a global society. They support educators in the instruction process that helps students develop essential skills for a successful future, including critical thinking, collaboration, organization, reading, writing, and relationship building.



Hamilton Preparatory Academy becomes Elizabeth Public Schools' third AVID National Demonstration School, joining Elmora School No. 12 and John E. Dwyer Technology Academy, and the sixth high school to achieve the distinction in the State of New Jersey.

Among those in attendance for the announcement was newly appointed New Jersey Department of Education Commissioner Dr. Lily Laux who was visiting the district and took a moment to congratulate the school for their outstanding accomplishment.

2 EPS SCHOOLS NAMED NATIONAL SCHOOLS OF CHARACTER BY CHARACTER.ORG



Donald Stewart Center for Early Childhood School No. 51 and Katherine Johnson, Dorothy Vaughan, Mary Jackson STEM Academy were among 103 schools and districts from around the world as 2026 State and National Schools of Character. This year's honorees represent 94 schools across the United States and a record-breaking nine international schools that have demonstrated a deep commitment to developing strong culture, ethical leadership, and character growth in students. Both designations recognize schools that exemplify the values and practices outlined in Character.org's 11 Principles Framework for Schools, a research-based approach that helps educators intentionally cultivate environments where students grow academically while also developing important character strengths. Donald Stewart Center for Early Childhood School No. 51 is the second EPS school to receive the National School of Character designation three times and JVI STEM Academy is receiving the award for the first time.

BOLLWAGE FINANCE ACADEMY TEACHER SELECTED AS 2026-2027 UNION COUNTY TEACHER OF THE YEAR



J. Christian Bollwage Finance Academy Special Education In-Class Support Teacher Dr. Alice Debowski was honored as the 2026-2027 Union County Teacher of the Year in a surprise ceremony at the school. Union County Interim Executive County Superintendent Daryl Palmieri and Union County Education Specialist Maria Mendez were there to make the announcement to the school community. Dr. Debowski is the first Elizabeth Public Schools high school teacher to ever be named county teacher of the year and the first district teacher to receive the honor since 2011-2012.

EDISON CAREER AND TECHNICAL ACADEMY COUNSELOR HONORED AS 2026 COUNSELOR OF THE COUNTY BY NJSCA



Thomas A. Edison Career and Technical Academy School Counselor Dayna Ferreira was honored by the New Jersey School Counselor Association as 2026 Counselor of the County at the 40th Annual NJSCA Professional Recognition Awards Program at the College of New Jersey in Ewing. The NJSCA honored school counselors from each of New Jersey's 21 counties who are nominated by their colleagues and are selected by their own county's School Counselor Associations for this award. The award honors the professionals who devote their careers to serving as advocates – and often lifesavers – for the nation's students. The Edison Career and Technical Academy counselor was recognized by the Governor's Educator of the Year program this year as her school's Educational Services Professional of the Year.

EHS ADVANCED JAZZ BAND EARNS 1ST PLACE IN STATE PRELIMINARIES, HOST SPECIAL PERFORMANCE FOR STATE & LOCAL DIGNITARIES



The Elizabeth High School Advanced Jazz Band had an outstanding performance at the state preliminaries at Bridgewater-Raritan HS in March where they finished in first place (Gold Rating) against top competitors J.P. Stevens High School and Scotch Plains High School. Among the honors they earned were the Outstanding Soloist Award (sophomore Wilson Genoa -trumpet), Outstanding Soloist Award - Rhythm Section Trio (Keyshla Castellanos, Melanie Torres, Ryan Palacio), Best Rhythm Section Award, and Best Saxophone Section Award.



The jazz band had the opportunity to rehearse for their upcoming state competition, playing “All The Things You Are” by Jerome Kern, arranged by Steven Feifke and “Lifelong Friends” by Kris Berg to a special audience that included New Jersey Department of Education Commissioner Dr. Lily Laux, New Jersey Senator Joseph P. Cryan, New Jersey Assemblywoman Annette Quijano, City of Elizabeth Mayor J. Christian Bollwage, Union County Interim Executive County Superintendent Daryl Palmieri, Elizabeth Board of Education President Maria Z. Carvalho, EPS Superintendent Dr. Olga Hugelmeyer, and other members of EPS central administration.

EPS HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS OWN THEIR JOURNEY AT ANNUAL COLLEGE FAIR



EPS Student Services proudly hosted a College and Career Fair on April 16, featuring over 110 institutions, including colleges and universities, military branches, trade schools, government agencies, and representatives from a wide range of industries providing students the opportunity to explore and gain valuable insight into their future pathways.

More than 1,500 juniors from all eight district high schools attended, engaging directly with representatives, asking questions, and beginning to envision their postsecondary plans. Utilizing StriveScan, students were able to efficiently connect with institutions, helping to streamline communication and support future outreach opportunities.

Under the leadership of Culinary Arts instructors Thomas Melillo and Joshua Murell, Thomas Edison Career and Technical Academy students prepared and served a delicious lunch for all attending representatives, showcasing their talents.



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