



Olga Hugelmeyer, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Howard Teitelbaum
Principal

August 2026

Dear Parents/Guardians and Students,

Welcome to the 2026-2027 school year! On behalf of our Team Members at **School No. 26, Dr. Orlando Edreira Academy**, we are excited to welcome you back to school on **Thursday, September 10, 2026**.

We look forward to a year filled with learning and meaningful opportunities for every student and partnering with our families to create a positive and successful school year. Our promise is to provide an innovative and personalized learning environment that ensures that every child achieves excellence.

Please review the following arrival and dismissal procedures to help ensure a safe and efficient start to the first day of school and throughout the 2026-2027 school year:

First Day of School – Arrival and Dismissal Procedures.

The 2026-2027 school year will begin on Thursday, September 10th, 2026. Instruction will be conducted during the hours of 7:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. for students in grades Kindergarten through 8, and 8:20 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. for Pre-K and the self-contained Autism Program. 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:

Instructional Session Times:

- School hours are from 7:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. for students in Grades Kindergarten - 8.
- School hours are from 8:20 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. for students in Pre-K and Self-contained Autism classes.
- The doors will open for students in Grades Kindergarten – 8 at 7:00 a.m.

Arrival:

- Students in Grades **Pre-K - 3** will enter through the Main Entrance.
- Students in Grades **4 - 8** will enter through the Side Entrance.

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Dismissal:

- Students in Grades **Pre-K and Kindergarten** will exit through the Main Entrance.
- Students in Grades **1 - 3** will exit through the Cafeteria.
- Students in Grades **4 – 8** will exit through the Side Entrance.

There will be staff members outside to assist everyone during the first week of school. Staff members will also help walk students to their staging areas until they become accustomed to where to go each morning.

Please take the time to visit our district website and the ***Back-to-School*** link at <https://www.epsnj.org/students-and-families/back-to-school-parent-resources> for more information on returning to school. Additionally, many important topics are addressed on the following pages for your immediate review. These topics include ***the updated district cell phone policy in accordance with state bell to bell cell phone law, back to school night date, transportation, immunization requirements, student schedules, school calendar, etc.***

Thank you for your continued partnership and support. Together, we will make the 2026-2027 school year a successful and rewarding experience for all students. Enjoy the rest of your summer, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back on ***Thursday, September 10, 2026!***

Sincerely,

Your School 26 Team

Dr. Orlando Edreira Academy School No. 26

1014 South Elmora Avenue, Elizabeth, New Jersey 07202 • Ph: 908.436.5950 • Fax: 908.436.5954
Email: teitelho@epsnj.org • Website: www.epsnj.org



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Back to School Resources Guide

List of School Supplies



On the first day of school, please send your child in with the following items:

- 1 COMPLETE set of extra clothes (1 long sleeve shirt and 1 short sleeve shirt, pants, socks, and 2 pairs of underwear – ALL items must be labeled with your child's name and placed in a large zip lock bag, with your child's name on the bag as well. These are back up clothes since Pre-K students are not required to be in uniform.)
- 1 NAP MATT labeled with your child's name on it (This item can be purchased at Walmart for around \$25 - it is the easiest to be washed and it fits on our beds easily. It will be sent home every week and will need to be returned on Mondays.)
- Box of Tissues
- Container of Disinfectant Wipes
- Container of Baby Wipes
- Box of Nitrile Gloves (Medium)
- 2 Family Photos and 2 Recent Photos of your child
- 1 Backpack large enough to fit your child's Nap Matt (no mini backpacks).

Students in K-3

Your child's teacher will send home a list of materials the first day to let you know what your child needs to start the school year for their classroom.

Back to School Night Information



We are excited to begin a new school year and invite parents and guardians to attend our Back-to-School night on Wednesday, September 30th starting at 6:30 p.m. Our school is located at 1014 South Elmora Avenue, Elizabeth, NJ 07202. Our main phone number is 908-436-5950 if you have any questions.

Transportation



Transportation is available for elementary students who live more than 2.0 miles from the school.

PowerSchool Information

Dr. Orlando Edreira Academy School No. 26



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PowerSchool gives families access to student schedules, attendance, grades, and important school information.

- **2026-2027 student schedules will be available on Monday, August 24, 2026.**
- New families should create a Parent Portal account. Returning families should log in and update any contact information or emergency contact information before school begins.
- To obtain instructions on how to navigate the PowerSchool Parent Portal, please visit the EPS website at [Student and Parent Sign In \(powerschool.com\)](https://www.epsnj.org/StudentandParentSignIn).

School Uniforms



- Students are expected to wear the approved school uniform every day. Uniform requirements for our school are:

Dr. Orlando Edreira Academy School 26	Boys Pre-K to Grade 3	Girls Pre-K to Grade 3	Boys Grades 4-8	Girls Grades 4-8
	Navy Blue Polo with School logo Khaki Pants or Khaki Shorts Black Flat Appropriate Shoes	Navy Blue Polo with School Logo Khaki Jumper, Khaki Pants, or shorts Black Flat Appropriate Shoes	Navy Blue Polo with School Logo Khaki Pants Black flat Appropriate Shoes	Navy Blue Polo with School Logo Khaki Pants Khaki Skirt Black Flat Appropriate Shoes

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 10th*** 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.

Technology

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K – 8 – Our school operates as a 1:1 technology school. Students are expected to:

- Bring their laptop charged every day.
- Bring their charger/power cord.
- Take proper care of their device throughout the year.

New students will receive their laptops during the first week of school.

Stay Connected!



Please make sure your phone numbers, address, and emergency contacts remain current in PowerSchool throughout the school year. The district uses phone calls, text messages, and emails to share important announcements, emergency notifications, and school updates. To obtain information on how to keep your contact information up to date, please visit the EPS website at <https://www.epsnj.org/students-and-families/back-to-school-parent-resources>.

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*.

Required Forms



Please review and complete the required forms by the first day of school, including:

- Emergency Contact Information
- Notice Regarding Physicals
- Media Release Form
- Student Internet & Network Permission Form with Elizabeth Internet Use Policy
- Acceptable Use for Technology – Electronic Mobile Device Form
- Title I Compact
- 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/students-and-families/back-to-school-parent-resources>

Immunization Requirements



Pre – Kindergarten - Please be advised that the State of New Jersey, Department of Health Services, has changed several immunization requirements. All children attending licensed childcare centers and preschools are required to receive an annual flu vaccination. Please submit proof of your child's required immunization as soon as possible, but ***no later than November 30, 2026***. Students who do not have the required immunization documentation on file by November 30, 2026, ***will be excluded from school beginning December 1, 2026***, in accordance with New Jersey immunization regulations.

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Grade 7 - The state of New Jersey Department of Health ***requires*** all students entering the seventh grade to have **one dose of Tdap (Tetanus, Diphtheria, and Pertussis vaccine) and one dose of Meningococcal vaccine.** To meet the New Jersey requirements, both vaccines must have been given **on or after your child's tenth birthday.** Documentation that your child has received the required seventh grade immunizations must be turned into the school nurse no later than ***Thursday, September 10th, 2026.***

Students entering 7th grade with birthdays on or after ***Thursday, September 10th, 2026,*** must provide written confirmation from your child's healthcare provider of the vaccination appointment. This appointment should be within two weeks of your child turning 10 years of age. The immunization record must be submitted immediately following the appointment. The Elizabeth Public School District is compelled by law to ensure that all students receive their required immunizations.

Please be advised that students who do not meet the State's immunization requirements may be excluded from school until the required documentation is submitted. Documentation must be signed by your child's healthcare provider.

Updated Cell Phone Policy

Elizabeth Public Schools has adopted an updated cell phone policy in accordance with New Jersey Department of Education Guidelines and state law that, at minimum, requires schools to prohibit the use of personal internet-enabled devices during the entirety of the school day for students in kindergarten through grade 12. The policy will be implemented as follows:

K-5: Students are not permitted to bring cell phones or devices to school. If brought to school: Cell phones and devices must be checked in the classroom upon arrival and stored securely for the duration of the school day. They will be returned to students at the end of the day. Parents will receive a notification via Class Dojo or School Messenger (PowerSchool) from the school requesting that personal devices be left at home.

Grades 6-8: Students are not permitted access to their cell phones or other devices at school during school hours. Students are encouraged to leave devices at home. If brought to school: Cell phones and devices must be checked in the classroom upon arrival and stored securely for the duration of the school day. Students will re-gain access to their device at the end of each school day.

Dr. Orlando Edreira Academy School No. 26



ELIZABETH PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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2026-2027 School Calendars



ELIZABETH PUBLIC SCHOOLS 2026-2027 SCHOOL CALENDAR

7/3/26	Fri	Independence Day Observance – Schools and District Closed
9/1/26	Tue	New Team Member Orientation
9/3/26	Thu	Opening Day for 10-Month Administrators
9/4 & 7/26	Fri, Mon	Labor Day Weekend - Schools and District Closed
9/8/26	Tues	Schools Open for Administrators, Team Members & Faculty Meetings
9/9/26	Wed	Professional Development Day for Team Members
9/10/26	Thu	Schools Open for Students
9/21/26	Mon	Yom Kippur – Schools and District Closed
9/28/26	Mon	Schools Close at 12:15 p.m. for Professional Development
10/12/26	Mon	Columbus Day Observance – Schools and District Closed
10/22/26	Thu	Schools Close at 12:15 p.m. for Professional Development
11/3/26	Tue	School Close at 12:15 p.m. for General Election
11/5-6/26	Thu, Fri	NJEA Convention – Schools and District Closed
11/11/26	Wed	Veterans' Day – Schools and District Closed
11/25/26	Wed	Schools Close at 12:15 p.m. for Thanksgiving Recess
11/26-27/26	Thu, Fri	Thanksgiving Recess – Schools and District Closed
12/7/26	Mon	Schools Close at 12:15 p.m. for Professional Development
12/23/26	Wed	Schools Close regular time for Christmas Recess
12/24-31/26	Thu - Thu	Christmas Recess - Schools and District Closed
1/1/27	Fri	New Year's Day Observance - Schools and District Closed
1/4/27	Mon	Schools Reopen
1/12/27	Tues	Schools Close at 12:15 p.m. for Parent-Teacher Conference
1/18/27	Mon	Observance of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday – Schools and District Closed
2/8/27	Mon	Schools Close at 12:15 p.m. for Professional Development
2/15/27	Mon	Presidents' Day – Schools and District Closed
3/2/27	Tues	Schools Close at 12:15 p.m. for Professional Development
3/10/27	Wed	Schools and District Closed for Eid-al-Fitr–
3/19/27	Fri	Schools Close Regular Time for Easter Recess
3/22-25/27	Mon-Thu	Schools Closed for Easter Recess
3/26/27	Fri	Easter Recess - Schools and District Closed
3/29/27	Mon	Schools Reopen
5/31/27	Mon	Memorial Day – Schools and District Closed
6/1/27	Tues	Schools Close at 12:15 p.m. for Primary Election
6/18/27	Fri	Schools and District Closed for Juneteenth
6/22/27	Tue	Schools Close at 12:15 for Students and Team Members
6/23/27	Wed	Schools Close for 10-Month Administrators

Key

	Schools Closed		Schools and District Closed
	Schools Close at 12:15 p.m.	(xx/xx)	Teachers/Students Total Days Per Month

This calendar provides 181 team member days, 180 student days, and 1 Professional Development Day.

In the event that schools must close for inclement weather, etc., days will be made up commencing with June 22, 2027 with an additional day added to the calendar for each day missed through June 30, 2027 to fulfill the legal requirement of 180 days of school attendance for the regular school year. If additional days are needed beyond June 30, 2027 days will come from Easter Recess commencing with March 25, 2027 and working backward from the end of that week.

Administrative offices will remain open until 4:30 p.m. daily except Fridays during summer hours. On Wed., November 25, 2026 all schools will close at 12:15 p.m. for Thanksgiving Recess; administrative offices will be open regular hours and all 12 month employees and all secretaries, security personnel, and custodians will follow their regular schedules.

JULY				
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AUGUST				
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SEPTEMBER (18/14)				
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DECEMBER (17/17)				
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FEBRUARY (19/19)				
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MARCH (17/17)				
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JUNE (15/15)				
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ELIZABETH PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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ELIZABETH PUBLIC SCHOOLS 2026-2027 SCHOOL CALENDAR Wrap-Around Calendar

7/3/26	Fri	Independence Day Observance – Schools and District Closed
9/1/26	Tues	New Team Member Orientation
9/3/26	Thu	Opening Day for 10-Month Administrators
9/4 & 7/26	Fri, Mon	Labor Day Weekend – Schools and District Closed
9/8/26	Tues	Schools Open for Administrators, Team Members & Faculty Meetings
9/9/26	Wed	Professional Development Days for Team Members
9/10/26	Thu	Schools Open for Students
9/21/26	Mon	Yom Kippur – Schools and District Closed
9/28/26	Mon	Schools Close at 12:15 p.m. for Professional Development
10/12/26	Mon	Columbus Day Observance – Schools and District Closed
10/22/26	Thu	Schools Close at 12:15 p.m. for Professional Development
11/3/26	Tue	School Close at 12:15 p.m. for General Election
11/5-6/26	Thu, Fri	NJEA Convention – Schools and District Closed
11/11/26	Wed	Veterans' Day – Schools and District Closed
11/25/26	Wed	Schools Close at 12:15 p.m. for Thanksgiving Recess
11/26-27/26	Thu, Fri	Thanksgiving – Schools and District Closed
12/7/26	Mon	Schools Close at 12:15 p.m. for Professional Development
12/23/26	Wed	Schools Close regular time for Christmas Recess
12/24-31/26	Thu-Thu	Christmas Recess - Schools and District Closed
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6/22/27	Tue	Schools Close at 12:15 for Students and Team Members
6/23/27	Wed	Schools Close for 10-Month Administrators

Key

	Schools Closed	
	Schools Close at 12:15 p.m.	(xx/xx)

Hours of operation for the Wrap Around Program for Preschool Students are: 7:30 a.m. – 8:20 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. – certified teachers will teach all classes during the regular school day. Licensed Childcare providers will care for students during the wrap-around hours. Monday, September 14, 2026 Wrap Around Program will be available for students attending Schools No. 1, 2, 5, 5b, 7, 16, 21, 22, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 50, 51, 52. Teachers will not be present on the following dates: July 1-31, 2026, and August 3-21, 2026.

No wrap-around program will be in session on the following dates: August 24-31, 2026, September 1-11, 2026 and June 22-30, 2027.

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