



ELIZABETH PUBLIC SCHOOLS

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**February 2024**



**EPS Receives \$4.3M from SDA in  
Emergent Capital Project Funding**



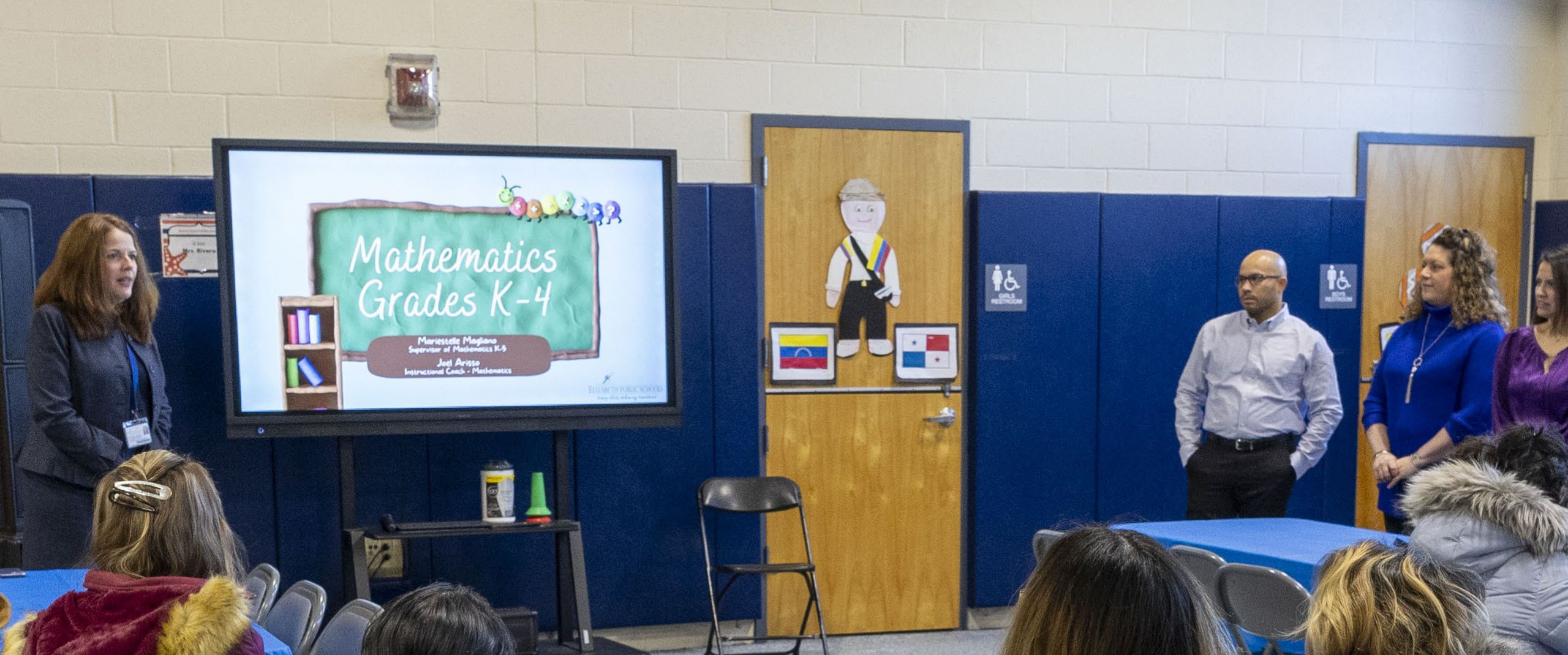
**EPA \$19 Million Grant Will Put Clean  
School Buses on the Streets of New Jersey**



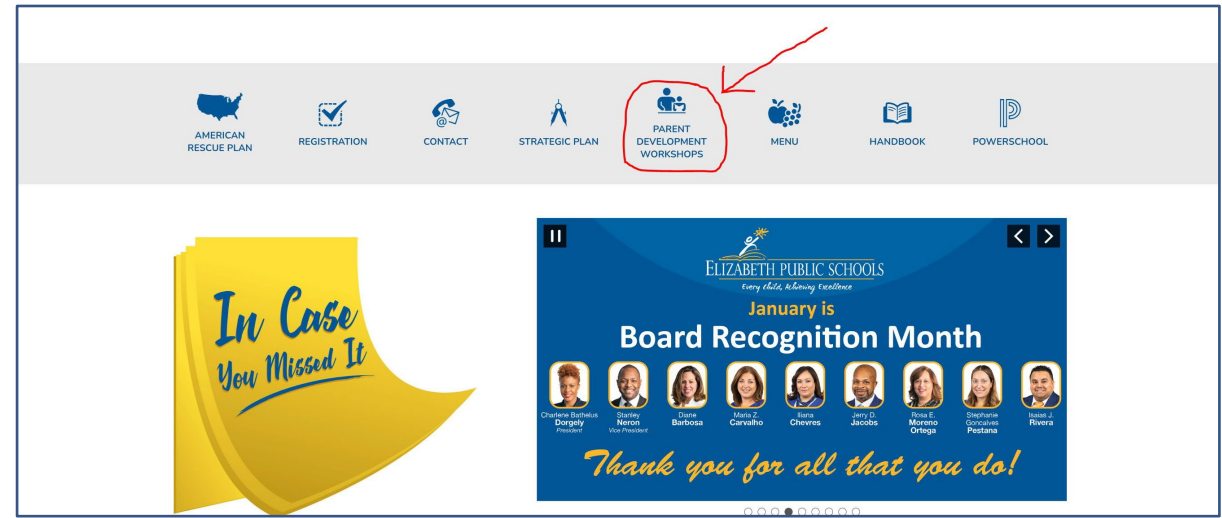
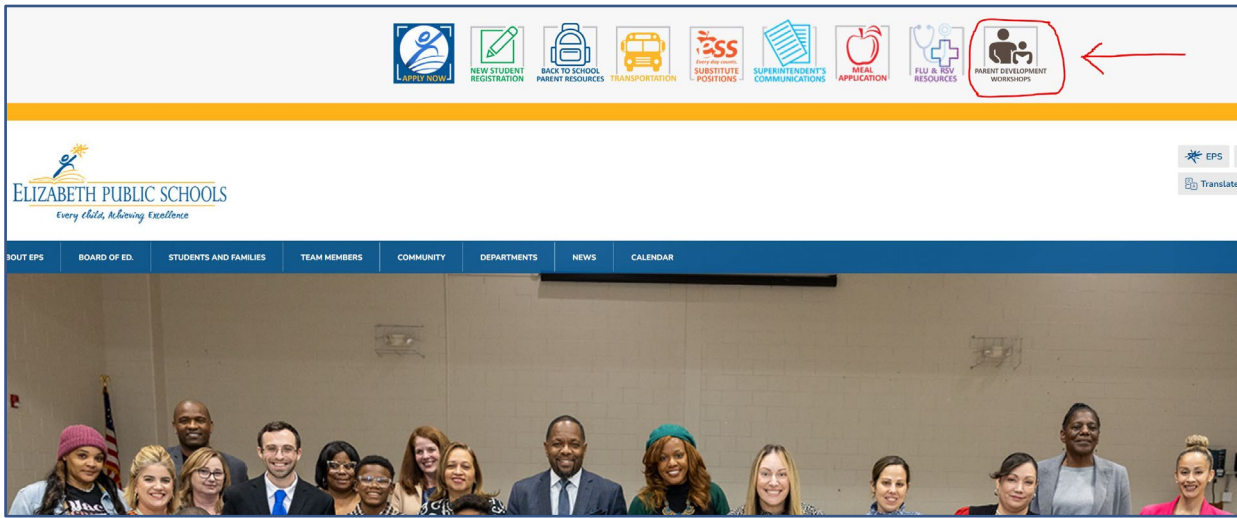
**EPS Partners with New York Academy of Sciences for Scientist-in-Residence Program**



# EPS Offers Addressing Equity Through Cultural Education and SEL Training



# EPS Offers Families Parent Development Workshop Series



## Parent Development Workshop Series

Click on the Parent Development Workshop icon at the top of the district home page ([www.epsnj.org](http://www.epsnj.org)) or under the multimedia gallery



PARENT DEVELOPMENT  
WORKSHOPS

# EPS Offers Families Parent Development Workshop Series



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ELIZABETH PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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*Recognitions*



Elizabeth High School

has been recognized for the

## 2023 AP® School Honor Roll

for developing an AP program that creates a college-going culture and gives students opportunities to earn college credit and to maximize their college outcomes. Elizabeth High School is also honored with the 2023 AP Access Award for ensuring AP coursework is equally available to students no matter their backgrounds.



Alexander Hamilton Preparatory Academy

has been recognized for the

## 2023 AP® School Honor Roll

for developing an AP program that creates a college-going culture and gives students opportunities to earn college credit and to maximize their college outcomes. Alexander Hamilton Preparatory Academy is also honored with the 2023 AP Access Award for ensuring AP coursework is equally available to students no matter their backgrounds.



John E Dwyer Technology Academy

has been recognized for the

## 2023 AP® School Honor Roll

for developing an AP program that creates a college-going culture and gives students opportunities to earn college credit and to maximize their college outcomes. John E Dwyer Technology Academy is also honored with the 2023 AP Access Award for ensuring AP coursework is equally available to students no matter their backgrounds.

# Three EPS High Schools Make 2023 AP School Honor Roll



**Two EPS Schools Named  
2024 NJ School of Character**



**Dwyer's "No One Eats Alone Day" Certified  
as Promising Practice by Character.org**



# Elizabeth Lady Minutemen Basketball Team Wins Union County Tournament



# Halsey Health & Public Safety Academy Named Naval Honor School



# Navigating the EPS Website: Special Services Resources

BEST  
HIGH SCHOOLS

& WORLD REPORT  
U.S. News

HIGH SCHOOL  
FRANK J. CICARELL ACADEMY



Search...



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ABOUT EPS

BOARD OF ED.

STUDENTS AND FAMILIES

TEAM MEMBERS

COMMUNITY

DEPARTMENTS

NEWS

CALENDAR

← FIND IT FAST...



**BLACK  
HISTORY  
MONTH**

The Elizabeth Board of Education celebrates Black History Month to recognize the achievements of Black Americans in our local communities and throughout the world.

Join us in honoring the contributions of African Americans that have led to the significant advancement of our society.



**BLACK  
HISTORY  
MONTH**

Athletics  
Business Office  
Curriculum & Instruction  
Equity and Inclusion  
Food & Nutrition  
Human Resources  
Plant, Property and Equipment  
Special Services  
Student Support Services  
Technology and Information Systems  
Transportation



The Special Services webpage can be found quickly on our district home page ([www.epsnj.org](http://www.epsnj.org)).

Above the multimedia gallery, roll your cursor over “**Departments**” and then select “**Special Services**” from the pulldown menu

# Navigating the EPS Website: Special Services Resources

## Special Services

- > Overview
- > Additional Remote Learning Resources
- > Autism Awareness Month
- > Child Find
- > Child Study Team
- > Community Resources
- > Contact Information
- > Elizabeth SEPAC
- > IEP Documents
- > Guardianship
- > I.E.P. PROCESS & FAQ
- > Parent Portal
- > Program Description and Curriculum
- > Referrals
- > ReThink
- > Transition to Adulthood

## Special Services

Welcome Center  
507 Westminster Ave  
Elizabeth, NJ 07208  
908.436.5200

## District News

Year  Location  Category



### Early Childhood Preschool Registration

Community  Early Childhood  Families   
News



### Board President Charlene Bathelus Dorgely Office Hours

Board President's Tour  Elizabeth Board of Ed   
Families  Special Services



## Contact Information

Director of Special Services  
Dr. Michael Ojeda  
507 Westminister Ave  
Elizabeth, NJ 07208  
Phone: 908.436.5253  
Email: [ojedami@epsnj.org](mailto:ojedami@epsnj.org)

## Mark Your Calendar

### FEB22

5:30 PM  
Board of Education Agenda/Business Meeting

### FEB27

5:30 PM - 6:30 PM  
Gifted and Talented Program Parent Information Session

### MAR11

Schools Close 12:15 p.m. for Professional Development

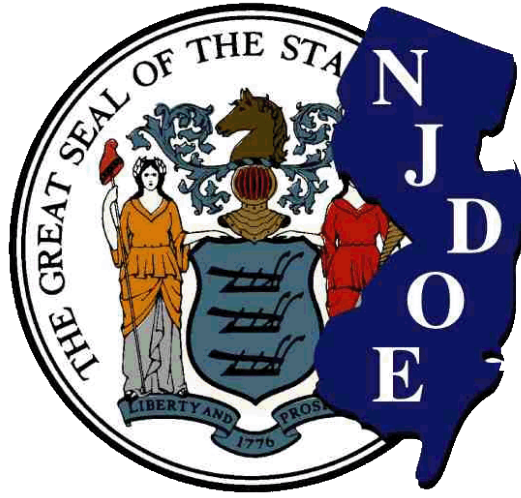
### MAR13

5:00 PM - 7:00 PM  
Financial Aid FAFSA Night

[View Calendar](#)

On the Special Services webpage, you can find information on topics such as Child Find, Child Study Team, Elizabeth SEPAC, IEP, and Transition to Adulthood

# Navigating the EPS Website: Special Services Resources



# Graduation Requirements Update



A photograph of Governor Murphy, an older man with glasses, wearing a dark suit and a striped tie, sitting at a desk and signing a document. The background is dark with some blurred lights.

# **Bill A1181/S2054**

- Gov. Murphy signed into law on January 16, 2024
- Requires all graduating high school students (Class of 2025 & beyond) and families to complete either:
  - Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or
  - NJ Alternative Financial Aid Application
- Students must submit prior to receiving their high school diploma

# CURRENT EPS INITIATIVES TO SUPPORT FINANCIAL AID COMPLETION

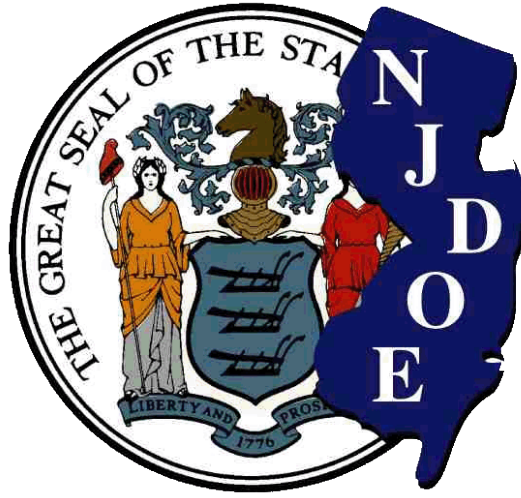
- **District Website**
  - Guide to completing FAFSA
- **School-Level Financial Opportunity**
  - Every School host Senior Financial Aid Completion events
- **District Financial Aid Nights**
  - 1/17/24
  - 2/7/24
  - 3/13/24
- **Partnership (Data Sharing Agreement) with Higher Education Student Assistance Authority (HESAA)**
  - Will provide frequent completion updates

## **FUTURE EPS INITIATIVES TO SUPPORT FINANCIAL AID COMPLETION**

- **Increased Financial Aid night for students and families**
  - Bi-weekly starting January 2025
- **School Level – Embedded Financial Aid assistant through our Financial Literacy Curriculum**
- **Increased partnership with Higher Education Student Assistance Authority (HESAA) to include:**
  - More frequent data sharing
  - Additional professional development for school staff
- **Training for student/guardians on the updated graduation requirements including waiver opportunity.**

## FAFSA GRADUATION REQUIREMENT WAIVER OPPORTUNITY

A student **shall be exempt from the graduation requirement** if the student or the student's parent or guardian submits to the school district a signed waiver form requesting the exemption from the requirement *and* a form signed by the school counselor authorizing the exemption for good cause as defined by the New Jersey State Board of Education.



# Assessments Update



# Digital SAT

New for 2024, the SAT has gone digital. This includes SAT School Day as well as National Dates on Saturdays.

The digital SAT uses multistage adaptive testing (MST). This means that the digital SAT fairly and accurately measures the same things in a shorter, more secure test while maintaining reliability of the scores

Each assessment has two sections with a 10-minute break between

- Reading and Writing (64 minutes)
- Mathematics (70 minutes)

# SAT School Day

Elizabeth Public Schools will administer its SAT School Day on **Tuesday, April 23, 2024**

The following students will be administered the SAT:

- All Grade 11 students in all high schools
- Grade 12 students who do not have SAT scores as per Policy 6146 Graduation Requirements

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- All Grade 11 students in all high schools
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# Early Childhood Lottery Registration

February 21 –  
March 22





ELIZABETH PUBLIC SCHOOLS

*Every Child, Achieving Excellence*

# Gifted & Talented Program Application

February 27 –April 12

G&T Information  
Session

February 27  
School 22

5:30p.m. – 6:30p.m.





ELIZABETH PUBLIC SCHOOLS

*Every Child, Achieving Excellence*

2024

celebrate

March 1	Read Across America Day
March 3-9	National School Social Worker Week
March 4-8	National School Breakfast Week
March 17	St. Patrick's Day
Whole Month	American Red Cross Month
Whole Month	Irish American Heritage Month
Whole Month	Music in Our Schools Month
Whole Month	National Nutrition Month
Whole Month	Gifted & Talented Students Month
Whole Month	Women's History Month
Whole Month	Social Workers Month
Whole Month	Youth Art Month

in the month of

March



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