



Elizabeth Public Schools, Elizabeth, NJ

March 17, 2016

Elizabeth Public Schools Celebrate Read Across America



Elizabeth Public Schools joined school districts throughout the United States in celebrating Read Across America, an annual reading motivation and awareness program that calls for every child in every community to celebrate reading on March 2, the birthday of beloved children's author Dr. Seuss. Elizabeth Board of Education members, Elizabeth Public Schools central administration members, and Elizabeth community members visited schools throughout the district to read to students as part of Elizabeth Public Schools' Read Across America activities.



**"You're never
too old, too wacky, too wild,
to pick up a book and
read to a child."
-Dr. Seuss**

Reading Time

On March 1, **Juan Pablo Duarte-José Julián Martí School No. 28** held its first "Read Across the School" to kick off Read across America Week.

All students in grades Pre-K through Grade 8 brought in their favorite book and went outside their classrooms for a 15 minute reading period. Teachers, support staff, and all other faculty members were reading as well. This event promoted literacy and a love of reading throughout the school.



Special Visit

On March 3, Freeholder Sergio Granados visited **Frances C. Smith Early Childhood Center School No. 50** and helped Mr. Dieguez's class celebrate Read Across America Week by reading the book: *I Can Read With My Eyes Shut*.

Students enjoyed listening to the story and Mr. Granados enjoyed speaking with the students. A special thanks to Freeholder Granados for his visit.



Happy Birthday Dr. Seuss!

John Marshall School No. 20 had a creative celebration of the amazing author, Dr. Seuss, by inviting Dibble and Dabble Creativity Center to collaborate with students.

Students from K-2 participated in interactive reading, a canvas painting session, arts and crafts, and sang Happy Birthday to Dr. Seuss.



Dr. Seuss on the Loose at School No. 50



Read Across America was celebrated at **Frances C. Smith Early Childhood Center School No. 50** by bringing Dr. Seuss books to life. Children and teachers decorated walls, doors and bulletin boards with Dr. Seuss book themes as well as reading stories. Some students even wrote rhymes on their pictures. The week was filled with engaging activities.



112 Years of Read Across America

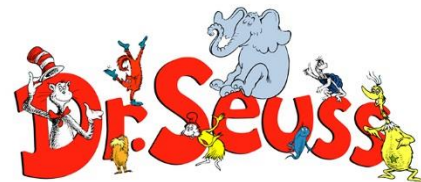
Read Across America Day was celebrated at **Madison-Monroe School No. 16 Annex** with multiple visitors such as Cat in the Hat, Thing 1 and Thing 2, as well as team members in various character costumes. Librarian, Mr. Richter, created a hand painted frame that was made for children to have their picture taken. Every student enjoyed getting their picture taken in this beautiful frame. The week was filled with many activities. All students really enjoyed celebrating 112 years of READ ACROSS AMERICA!



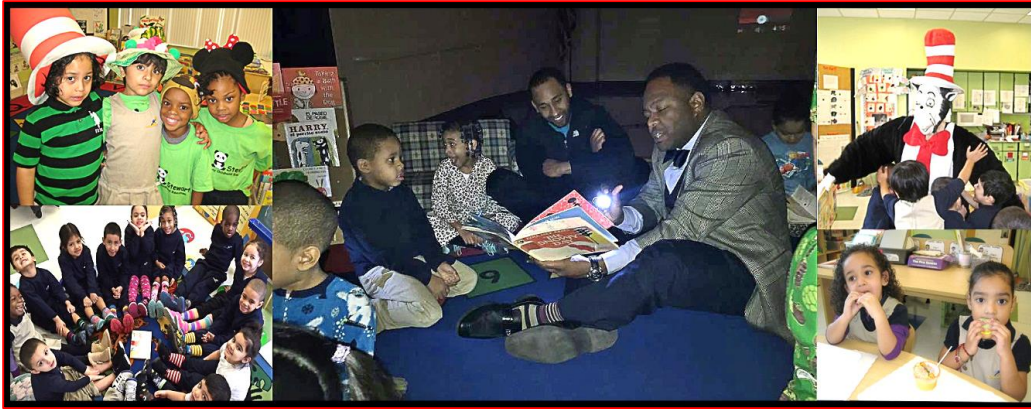
Cat in the Hat Visit



At **Charles J. Hudson School No. 25**, students in Mrs. Scalzo and Ms. Okseniuk's classes were excited to receive a surprise visit by The Cat in the Hat on Dr. Seuss' birthday. The students were thrilled to spend some time with one of their favorite fictional characters and even received a bracelet from their special guest.



Reading Under the Stars



During the week of February 29 to March 4, 2016, the students from **Donald Stewart Center for Early Childhood Education School No. 51** celebrated Read Across America Week. During this nationwide event, students participated in numerous school-wide events and activities that were designed to promote literacy among young children. In honor of this event, the school commemorated some of Dr. Seuss' wonderful books by creating birthday cards, wearing silly hats and socks and eating green eggs and ham for breakfast. In addition, the school's multipurpose room was transformed into a stargazing extravaganza for *Reading Under the Stars*. Books were read using flashlights as shooting stars flew over students heads. This event was an opportunity to gather the parents, students and teachers in an environment, which fosters a love of reading. Also, Board of Education Member Mr. Stanley Neron read to the children under the stars.

Honoring Dr. Seuss



Students and teachers at **Woodrow Wilson School No. 19** participated in various events to honor Dr. Seuss and Read Across America week. Crazy hair day, stripes day, door decorating contests, special visitors reading to students and Storybook Character Day were all a success!



Reading Time

During the week of Reading Across America, **Christopher Columbus School No. 15** held many events to honor this reading initiative. Mr. DiFonzo, the school's principal, read aloud to different classes. The students in Ms. Bianco's 1st grade class enjoyed having Mr. Di Fonzo spending time with them sharing a popular Dr. Seuss story.





The Cat in the Hat Visits Pre-K

On March 2, the Elizabeth Education Association sponsored The Cat in the Hat appearance at **Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Early Childhood Center School No. 52** as part of Read Across America Month.

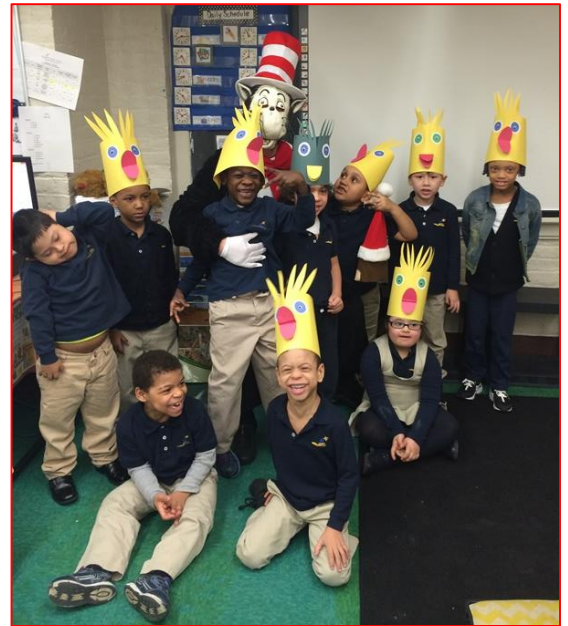
Students in Mrs. Pastore's & Mrs. Hartz's class were excited to greet The Cat in the Hat with high fives and hugs. They enjoyed reading the book *The Cat in the Hat* where he turns a rainy afternoon into an amazing adventure with the trickiest of tricks and silliest of ideas. A whirlwind of Dr. Seuss themed activities was found throughout the school building for Read Across America and was appreciated by all students, parents and visitors.

The Cat in the Hat

Students in Mrs. Jacqueline Encarnacion's Kindergarten Special Education class from **Benjamin Franklin School No. 13** enjoyed a visit by the "The Cat in the Hat".

Mrs. Encarnacion's class was chosen by the district to welcome Dr. Seuss's *Cat in the Hat*.

Today you are You,
that is truer than true.
There is no one alive
who is Youer than You.
-Dr. Seuss



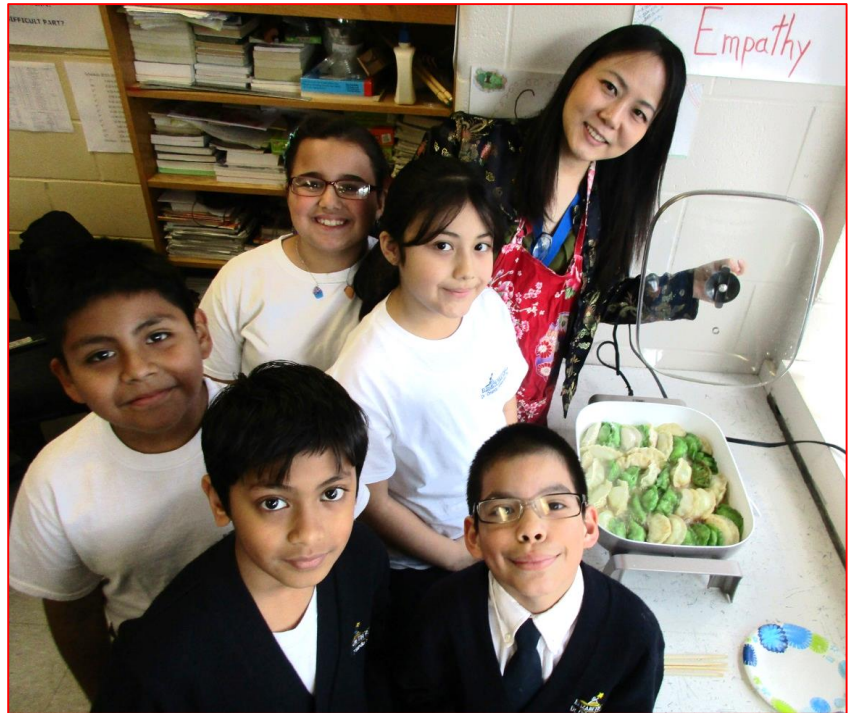
Drop Everything & Read

As part of our Read Across America celebration, students and teachers at **Charles J. Hudson School No. 25** joined together to line the hallways to "drop everything and read."



The Chinese “Year of the Monkey”

Mandarin Teacher Theresa Ho-Liang from **Dr. Orlando Edreira Academy School No. 26** celebrated Chinese New Year with her students with a variety of traditional activities including paper “lanterns” and an introduction to the art of Chinese cooking. The dumplings were enjoyed by all!



Student of the Month



Board President Charlene Bathelus visited **Christopher Columbus School No. 15** and participated in their Student of the Month Breakfast.

Every month, students are recognized and receive certificates to celebrate their achievements. Student of the Month breakfast is a very joyous and enjoyable event for parents and students.

Teach to One Visit

Jerome Dunn Academy of Mathematics, Technology and the Arts School No. 9 hosted a New Classroom's on-site visit including team members from Montclair State University, LaGuardia University, and Philadelphia School district.

In addition to observing the 8th grade students "in action," the visit included an informational session led by New Classrooms in conjunction with Vice Principal, Christine Casserly and Teach-to-One, Math Director, Ledyis Leyva.



Edison High School Jazz Festival

On February 12, the **Elizabeth High School** Lower and Upper Academy Jazz bands competed at the Edison High School Jazz festival.

Competing bands included Central Bucks High School (PA), Metuchen, Holmdel, West Orange, Edison, JP Stevens, Lower Academy and Upper Academy.

The Lower Academy placed in 6th place with a solid performance. The Upper Academy placed 2nd behind the state powerhouse JP Stevens High School. Upper Academy also earned the best rhythm section award. Members include: Jeremy Cruz, Daniel Hernandez, Bruna Esteves, Francisco Cabrerra, James Russell and Jonathan Jaimez Reyes. Francisco Cabrerra was awarded the outstanding soloist award for his guitar solo.



Stay Connected with your Elizabeth Public Schools!

100TH DAY OF SCHOOL CELEBRATION

Oh, Dearie, I have a tissue...



To commemorate the *100th Day of School*, teachers at **Abraham Lincoln School No. 14** dressed like they were 100 years old! The students, confused at first, were thrilled to see their teachers dressed up. Students reveled in the fact that they were all now 100 days smarter!

100 Year Old Outfits



Mrs. Greenstein's first graders, at **Winfield Scott School No. 2**, enjoyed celebrating the 100th Day of school! They loved showing their 100 year old outfits to Vice Principal Mrs. Ferreira.

The first graders also created a 100th day newsletter and gumball machine that showed different ways to make 100. They finished the day with sharing items that they brought in that showed 100. It was a fun filled day!

School No. 22 celebrates the 100 Days of School



The second graders in Mrs. López's and Mrs. Sutera's classes from **William F. Halloran School No. 22 @31** celebrated the 100 Days of school with a t-shirt project. Each student had to decorate a t-shirt with 100 items. The students were very creative and enthusiastic about this celebration. The classes also read *The 100th Day of School*, by Angela Shelf Medearis and *100 Days of School* by Trudy Harris. The classes also completed 100 exercises to make the 100th day a 100 times healthier!

The 100th Day of School

Students and teachers celebrated the 100th day of school at **Dr. Antonia Pantoja School No. 27**. Teachers and students alike dressed up as 100 year olds to celebrate!

Different activities were done throughout the grade levels in addition to dressing up. Many classes made posters with 100 items, took 100 steps, and did 10 different exercises 10 times each!



Student Invited to 2017 Presidential Inauguration

Jordan Calixto, a seventh grade AVID student and secretary of the National Junior Honor Society at **Victor Mravlag School No. 21**, has received an invitation from Envision Impact Series to participate in the Presidential Inauguration Leadership Summit. This is a five day conference where middle and high school students will have the opportunity to attend the 58th Presidential Inauguration! Jordan received this opportunity as an alumnus of the 2015 Junior National Young Leaders Conference, another Envision Experiences Program. Ms. Emily Campbell, his language arts teacher nominated Jordan to attend last year.

Besides attending the Inauguration, another highlight of this summit is an inspirational presentation by Malala Yousafzai, Nobel Laureate and Malala Fund co-founder, via video satellite. Ziauddin Yousafzai, Malala's father, will also lead a discussion for the students on site.

"When that letter came in the mail, I was surprised they had chosen me as one of two thousand students nationally that were selected to go to the Inauguration," Jordan says. "It is the chance of a lifetime, and I can't wait to go!" Congratulations Jordan!



National Junior Honor Society Chapter "Einstein's 29"



On March 1st, **Dr. Albert Einstein Academy School No. 29**, formally inducted 29 middle school students into the National Junior Honor Society Chapter "Einstein's 29". It was School 29's First Annual National Junior Honor Society Induction Ceremony.

The school has held a chapter of the National Junior Honor Society since 2014-2015. Prior to the ceremony, parents' and families of the honored students, along with faculty were invited to a mix and mingle sponsored by the school's PTO. It was a great night honoring "Einstein's 29!"

Students Become Junior Achievement High School Heroes



On March 3, students from **Alexander Hamilton Preparatory Academy's** Early Childhood Education and Introduction to Education classes visited **Dr. Antonia Pantoja School No. 27**. They were able to put learning theory into practice when they participated in the Junior Achievement High School Heroes program. Pairs of high school students presented lessons about personal and commercial finance prepared by Junior

Achievement to first through fourth grade classes. Students and teachers were delighted with the program, as many of them expressed interest in collaborating again in the future.

Fourth grade teacher, Mrs. Cameli said of the experience, "My volunteers came very prepared. It's really great seeing them teach. The fourth grade curriculum goes well with what we're teaching right now. Actually, the theme of the month is all about being an entrepreneur." Michael commented, "I was surprised my students were so cooperative. It made the day run really smoothly." While fourth grader Valentina remarked, "I like learning about the resources and making a business model with my group."

Love for Learning

Classrooms 141, 143, 144 and 146 from **Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Early Childhood Center School No. 52** have been working with parents on a variety of learning activities in order to emphasize the "love for education" in the school. The children were busy painting hearts as they followed directions and learned about creating patterns as they made heart wreaths. They practiced gluing, cutting skills, and coloring throughout the activities. It definitely was an enlightening experience as the parents as well as teachers collaborated to teach young children in a happy and loving atmosphere.



Science Fair

On February 25, **Ronald Reagan Academy School No. 30** held its science fair in the school gymnasium. Students were eager to showcase their scientific capabilities and were accompanied by their proud parents. The variety of talent amongst students was evident in their project designs which included: experimental projects, investigations, inventions, and models. Furthermore, students were held accountable for explaining the procedures involved in preparing their projects; most choosing to reference the scientific method. An award ceremony was held during school hours to honor those students with exceptional projects. As a whole, teachers were impressed by the amount of dedication most students exhibited in completing their projects. Therefore, every science fair participant was acknowledged by receiving a certificate of achievement.

Students Share Their Hearts with Seniors



The kindergarten students at **Nicholas S. LaCorte-Peterstown School No. 3** touched the hearts of 128 residents of the Plaza Nursing and Rehab Center in Elizabeth. With the full backing of their School 3 community (fellow students, parents, and teachers), they were able to collect items such as pocket size tissues, small shampoos and conditioners, soaps, lotions, sugar-free candies, and other items to make Valentine gift bags for each resident. The students then made heart-shaped Valentine cards with their handprints on them and wrote a personal message on each one to accompany the bags. The teachers, parents, and students went to the Plaza Nursing and Rehab Center and delivered the Valentine surprises. The residents were very gracious as students received a heartfelt thank you note from the residents at the Plaza.

Can You Say "Root Beer Floats"?



As a culminating activity at the end of FOSS States of Matter module, **Toussaint L'Ouverture-Marquis de Lafayette School No. 6** students from Mrs. Papa, Ms. Petrone, and Mrs. Tears' classes enjoyed the three states of matter. The children were so excited to mix the solid ice cream and liquid root beer to make their gas, an ice cream soda. Learning Science is SO much fun!

Teacher Recognized By Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

On January 29, Mrs. Mary Ann Taglialavore, Special Education Teacher of the **John E. Dwyer Technology Academy** was one of 350 educators chosen to attend the ECET2 Conference in San Diego, California. Mrs. Taglialavore was recognized by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation as a teacher leader from within her classroom. ECET2 simply means Elevating and Celebrating Effective Teaching. ECET2 was designed by teachers for teachers. ECET2 harnesses teachers' passion for serving their students and their intellectual desire to solve challenges in their profession. The conference provides the connections and supports for teachers to become decision makers, innovators, and leaders – not just in their classrooms but also in their school, district, state and even nationally.



School-Wide Gallery

iPrep Academy School No. 8 conducted a school wide gallery walk. Students in grades K-2 worked together to solve hands-on problems in which they used higher order thinking skills to create objects such as boats which needed to hold weighted objects and gingerbread man traps.

Students in grades 3-5 worked collaboratively to solve various mathematical problems and answered higher ordered questions based on their core novels and current events. Students in grades 6-8 were assigned student captains who facilitated their teams through ELA research simulation tasks and real world multi-step math problems.



Young Engineers Day

Students from **George Washington Academy of Science and Engineering School No. 1** and **Dr. Albert Einstein Academy School No. 29** participated in Young Engineers Day hosted by Rutgers University School of Engineering. The event introduced students to the field of engineering and provided them with opportunities to solve challenging, real-world engineering problems. Teams of students planned, tested, and modified their solutions for safely disposing “toxic waste” and collaborated on an application that allowed them to edit photographs on their Android cell phones. The challenges required students to think creatively and solve problems in a fun and engaging manner. Young Engineers Day also gave students an opportunity to visit the Rutgers University campus and consider a career in engineering.



101 Days of Fun

Celebrations of excellence and learning are embraced at **Jerome Dunn Academy of Mathematics, Technology and the Arts School No. 9**. On February 23rd, students celebrated the 101st day of learning with spots, spots, spots!

Team members and scholars dressed as dalmatians and they even had their own Cruella D' Vil, Principal Torres! Teaching and learning is always fun at School No. 9.



"Dress for Success" at William F. Halsey Academy of Finance



It seemed that fashion-forward professionals suddenly replaced the **Admiral William F. Halsey, Jr. Health & Public Safety Academy** of Finance students on "Dress for Success" day on January 22.

Up and down the hallways, students dashed to class in suits, professional attire, and business-ready ensembles. Kevin Barry, Advisory Board member, was also present to offer his own tips on professional wardrobe to the students in the NAF (National Academy of Finance) program.



BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Honoring African Americans of the Past and Present

Terence C. Reilly School No. 7 students and team members honored African Americans of the past and present. All in attendance were motivated by the aspirations, achievements, and goals of the historically significant individuals included in the event that celebrated Black History Month.



Under the direction of Marlenes Teixeira, the iMovie presentation displayed interviews with Todd Bowles, Jets coach and Councilwoman-at-large Patricia Auguste-Perkins. The keynote speaker was Board of Education President, Charlene Bathelus. There were also live performances by the TCR Musical Notes soloist Nyrhobi Barret who sung a beautiful rendition of the African American Anthem: Lift Every Voice and Sing.

“Because of Them....We can”

African American History Month was celebrated during the month of February at **Mabel G. Holmes School No. 5** Annex 5B. Pre-k students focused on the history and culture of African Americans.

Students and parents were asked to participate in a school wide parent/child activity that consisted of researching an African American throughout history using information that they learned. They created and decorated a quilt, which was put together to make two big quilts to represent unity. Students were also asked to create a poster on what they had learned about African American history, which were displayed in the school gymnasium.



A Moment in Time

The **Ronald Reagan Academy School No. 30** students experienced *A Moment in Time: The Harlem Renaissance* presented by the Ronald Reagan Academy Theater Troupe, a group meeting during the after school program. The program recognized famous poets, composers, singers and artists from the Harlem Renaissance with the use of song, dance, movement and gymnastics. The performers really wowed the audience with their talent!

A Legacy of Greatness



Black History was celebrated at **Joseph Battin School No. 4** with the presentation of *A Legacy of Greatness*.

In this musical, Oprah Winfrey played by Briannah Treath, took the audience on a journey through the timeline of African American history to explore the great achievements of a people, against tremendous odds, hoping to inspire them to discover the greatness in themselves.

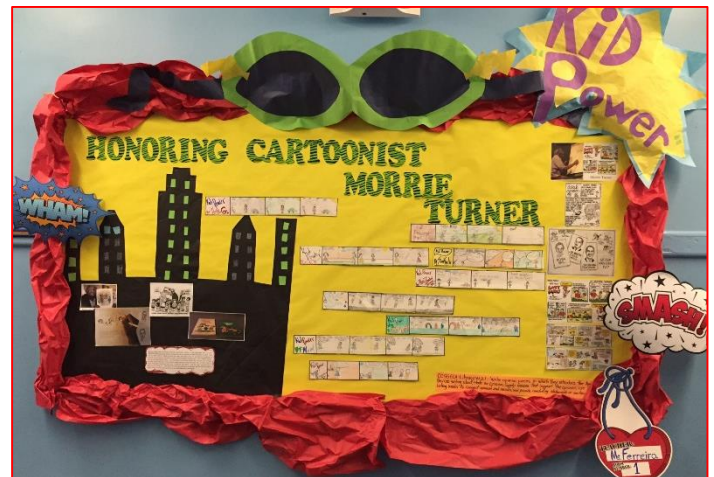
The very talented students of School 4 brought to life various époques from slavery, through the March on Washington to the present. Each time period was introduced by amazing student performances of the appropriate genre of music such as blues, Jazz, Motown, Pop and Hip hop, demonstrating the great musical contributions of African Americans. Elizabeth Board of Education President Charlene Bathelus and Board Member Stanley Neron who were both in the audience were impressed by the production. They both congratulated the students on their talents and charged them to live their legacy of greatness.

Bulletin Boards

Winfield Scott School No. 2 team members decorate their bulletin boards for Black History Month.

"The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character - that is the goal of true education."

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



Peppermint Players

Woodrow Wilson School No. 19 participated in a program put together by Peppermint Players. Their dancing and acting enlightened students and team members with a black history program that will not be forgotten!



Liberty Hall Museum

Mrs. Sevila's students from **George Washington Academy of Science & Engineering School No. 1** had the opportunity to visit Liberty Hall Museum and take a campus tour of Kean University. At Liberty Hall, students were treated to a tour of William Livingston's mansion, and presentations related to opposing loyalists and patriot point-of-views. While at Kean University, scholars eagerly asked questions related to admission, student-life, residence halls, and course expectations.

Class of 2025 was excited to explore academic buildings, student centers, and learn about studying abroad.



Breaking the Cycle



Nicholas Murray Butler No. 23 had the pleasure of welcoming the Breaking the Cycle tour. Presenters Mr. Hashim Garrett and Mr. Charles Williams discussed with students in grades 5-8 the power of forgiveness and how to move past hurt in order have a bright future.

Family Fitness Night

At **Abraham Lincoln School No. 14**, kindergarten, first, and second grade students enjoyed an exciting night of exercise, fun, and fitness with their families.

Children, together with their families, participated in exercise, tug-of-war, soccer, and a variety of other physical activities. This enjoyable event was organized and hosted by the physical education teachers at School No. 14.



Schools and Community Together

George Washington Academy of Science & Engineering School No. 1 & Jerome Dunn Academy of Mathematics, Technology and the Arts School No. 9 hosted their first Community Closet. The activity was sponsored by the Route 1 and 9 Committee. This committee is comprised of team members from both schools and the goal is to foster social and emotional equity for the students through the use of resources in the community and schools.



The doors opened at 4 pm to eager families from the community, allowing them to do some shopping or purchase items needed for their home. With the support of team members, merchandise consisted of clothing, household items, and other miscellaneous goods. All items were priced at \$1.00! The families had an enjoyable evening and left with big smiles.

Cross-Curricular Learning



Students in Mrs. Collins' English I Honors class from **Admiral William F. Halsey, Jr. Health & Public Safety Academy of Finance** have been working on a cross-curricular project between their Language Arts studies and their finance classes from the NAF (National Academy of Finance) curriculum. As a part of their study on propaganda in the classic novel, *Animal Farm*, students were asked to invent their own seemingly "perfect" school system using the same advertising & persuasive techniques. Students also created a budget for their school systems by applying real statistical data from the Elizabeth District to create their own imaginary models.

By enrolling in the NAF program, students at the William F. Halsey Academy of Finance learn that business finds its way in every corner of the world... even in English class!

Disney Musicals in Schools Celebration



On February 8, students from **John Marshall School No. 20** participated in the first ever Disney Musicals in Schools Student Share Celebration at the NJPAC, Prudential Hall. Disney Musicals in Schools is an outreach initiative that develops “sustainable theatre programs” in urban elementary schools. John Marshall was one of five schools throughout the state of New Jersey to be awarded the grant-funded initiative.

Third through fifth grade students performed the ensemble One by One from Disney’s *The Lion King*, a song written and performed in the African language of Zulu. The students of John Marshall debuted in Disney Musicals in Schools Production of *The Lion King* this February. This experience has allowed students in grades 3-8 to foster a new found awareness and appreciation for the arts, develop character and enhance self-esteem, increased student academic performance, increased parental involvement, and ultimately brought the school community together as a whole.

Bring On the Snow

At **Victor Mravlag School No. 21**, the fourth grade students presented the school’s very first mini-musical, *Bring on the Snow*.

All fourth grade classes participated by creating the scenery and memorizing all their lines, songs, and dances.

They performed brilliantly for their parents and peers. Bravo!



Elmora School 12 Has Talent!



On February 12, students together with family members performed dances, sang songs, and presented magic tricks at **Elmora School No. 12's** first talent show.

Team members and administrators also performed with their children. This talent show idea was a suggestion made by parents that serve on School 12's Safety Team. The purpose was to tie in the school community and celebrate families' talents. 1st place went to 5th grade student, Arianna Rosario and Kindergarten student Aleena Cuellar who danced a contemporary number with their mothers and cousins. 2nd place went to 6th grader Katelene Louis who sang "Make it to Me" with her older sister, and 3rd place went to 2nd grade student Melani Rebello who danced a modern piece with her mother.

2016 Spirit Week Kick Off

On March 7, the Huskys from William F. Halloran School No. 22 kicked off Spirit Week in style with a rousing Pep Rally to celebrate excellence in the school community! Over 1000 students and team members gathered to show Husky pride! There was music, cheerleading, Patriotic Majorettes and even a dance off with our own, Howie, the dancing Husky. The week will continue with "Idiom Day", "Dress for your Future Day" and a Teacher and Scholar Awards Program.



Dynamic Anti-Bullying Presentations

Madison-Monroe School No. 16

students attended Anti-Bullying presentations the first week in February. Students in Grades K-4 attended “I Want to be a Superhero” presented by musician Jared Campbell. Jared sang songs, which included “The Superhero Song,” “Love Like a Dog,” and “No Bullies Allowed.” Students and teachers were engaged, entertained and united that No Bullies were allowed at the school’s new “Club 16”. Students in Grades 5-8 attended “Breaking the Cycle of Violence” presented by Hashim Garrett and Charles Williams. Hashim shared his personal account of being involved in youth violence and getting shot. Their message was one of non-violent conflict resolution through forgiveness and stressed the healing power of forgiving others for your own emotional well-being. All participants were offered a free copy of the book “Why Forgive?” to expand on the idea that it is better to reclaim one’s personal power and forgive than hold grudges.



Career and Technical Education Showcase Inspires Students to Explore Career Choices



The **Thomas A. Edison Career and Technical Academy** Chapter's American Spirit Group of SkillsUSA organized and hosted a Career and Technical Education (CTE) Showcase in celebration of CTE Month. The showcase featured various careers, including retail services, automotive technology, construction technology, printing services, process technology, education, and a host of others.

Local career professionals who participated in the event include members of the Elizabeth Public Schools, City of Elizabeth, Elizabeth Police Department, Elizabeth Fire Department, and McDonald's. Middle school students from **John Marshall School No. 20** and **Winfield Scott School No. 2** also were invited to participate in hands-on activities and games related to each career booth visited.

Union County Gifted & Talented Associate Convocation

Gifted & Talented students are privileged to be a part of the Union County Gifted & Talented Association which allows students the chance to spend a full day and join members from gifted programs throughout Union County in grade level Convocations. These convocations allow the students the opportunity to meet other gifted children and work collaboratively with them on challenging activities.

William F. Halloran School No. 22 had the pleasure to host the Fourth and the Eighth grade Convocation at their school.

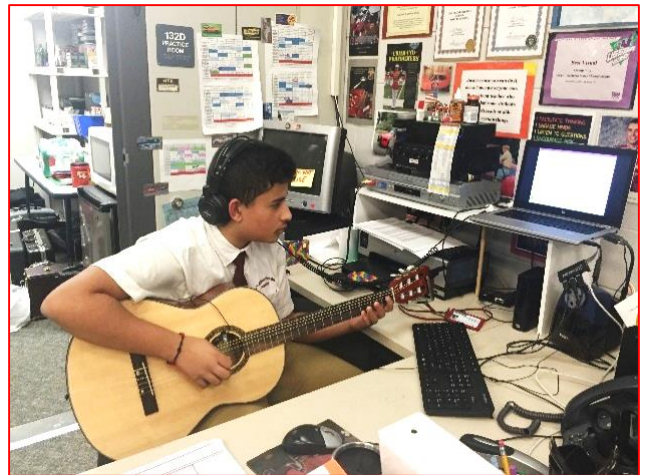
Other schools that attended were from Cranford, Roselle, Clark, Linden, Roselle Park, and **Terence C. Reilly School No. 7**. The Fourth Grade Convocation included activities in logic puzzles, analogies, tangram patterns, while the Eighth Grade Convocation included activities such as Pentominos puzzles, structure building with straws and creating a balloon vehicle created from a jumbo helium balloon that was able to grab point balloons with random objects. Each convocation is designed to celebrate the students in healthy competition where the students earn points in their activities. The day brings students together to make new friends and learn from each other as they participate in the challenges. Several students from School No. 22 placed 1st, 2nd and 3rd in both the 4th grade and the 8th Grade Convocation Teams.



Smart Music

Dr. Albert Einstein Academy School No. 29 is proud and excited to be participating in a pilot program in Elizabeth called SmartMusic. SmartMusic is the award winning software used by music educators around the world to enhance their programs and provides a way to dramatically improve their students' skills. Student practice is focused because they receive immediate feedback while listening to their performance and seeing the correct and incorrect rhythms and pitches onscreen. It also allows the teacher to provide students with the individual instruction and customized feedback needed to get better faster. Students are also able to hear their part in context with SmartMusic's professional background accompaniment, giving them a pitch and rhythmic reference when practicing at home.

Students are reporting that they enjoy practice and practice even longer because of SmartMusic. They say it is like having an orchestra in your house to play with. Others state that it is like a video game in which they try to beat their high score and like having a teacher who can listen to you and tell you what you did right and wrong without having to be in school. School No. 29 is proud to have been chosen as one of the schools to pilot this program.



School of Character Panda Pride Parade



Donald Stewart Early Childhood Center School No. 51 has been named a *New Jersey School of Character*. This honor is bestowed on schools that strive and achieve positive character education. "Character education is an educational movement that supports the social, emotional, and ethical development of students. It is the proactive effort by schools, districts, communities, and states to help students develop important core ethical (recognizing what's right) and performance (doing what's right) values such as caring, honesty, diligence, fairness, fortitude, responsibility, grit, creativity, critical thinking and respect for self and others." On March 4th the students and team members celebrated by participating in a parade throughout the school to music compiled by the music teacher, Mr. Mangeoglu, and led by Principal, Mrs. Rodriguez. School No. 51 has proven worthy of this award as they exemplify core values that promote a positive learning atmosphere. The school motto of "*Friends Care, Friends Share*," is infused throughout their curriculum and everyday activities.

Women's History Month

In celebration of Women's History Month, second grade students from Ms. Herrera's ABL class at **Dr. Antonia Pantoja School No. 27** studied the life and achievements of Sally Ride and Bessie Coleman. Students also wrote a friendly letter to one of the women and engaged in all steps of the writing process.

In addition, the letters included facts and their opinion about the women. Students utilized a graphic organizer, writing checklist, and included vocabulary words in their writing.





Kindness Matters

The week of February 1st, students in grades PreK-8 demonstrated to all around them that “Kindness Matters” at **George Washington Academy of Science & Engineering School No. 1**. Everyone took part in a series of activities that began with a school assembly. Students and team members also challenged themselves to see how many acts of kindness they were able to accomplish in one week. These small acts not only took place in school but also extended to families, community, the elderly, and those hospitalized. The list goes on and on. Kindness stations

were set up during recess, providing students with a variety of activities centered on the theme of kindness. This week was fun and went too quickly. The challenge will continue because students learned that their school and this world is a better place by a simple smile, kind word, or deed.

Rutgers University Business For Youth Juniors visit Bloomberg



Bloomberg L.P. was founded by Michael Bloomberg in 1981 with the help of Thomas Secunda, Duncan MacMillan, and Charles Zegar. Within 10 years of its founding, Bloomberg LP had made over 10,000 installations of the Bloomberg Professional Service, groundbreaking data, analytics and information-delivery service. In the same decade, Bloomberg opened offices around the world and launched Bloomberg News. Rutgers University Business For Youth (RUBY) Juniors from **Alexander Hamilton Preparatory Academy, Elizabeth High School, Admiral William F. Halsey, Jr. Health & Public Safety Academy of Finance, and Thomas Jefferson Arts Academy** had the opportunity to tour the NYC headquarters, meet with executives, learn about career opportunities, network with current employees, and were guests to an in-depth presentation on the philanthropic work the company prides themselves in.

Elizabeth High School Math Students Take It To Another Level

Twelve students from **Elizabeth High School** competed in Moody's M3 Nationwide Mathematics Challenge on Sunday, February 28.

Moody's Mega Math (M³) Challenge is an online applied math competition for high school students. The contest is free and open to high school juniors and seniors in the U.S. Working in teams, participants must solve an open-ended, math-modeling problem focused on a realistic issue—in 14 hours. Scholarships totaling \$150,000 toward the pursuit of higher education are awarded to the top teams. The real-world focus of the competition introduces students to applied math as a powerful problem-solving tool and, potentially, as a viable and exciting profession.

Mr. Paul Gruber, Math Teacher, at Elizabeth High School, said, "The beauty of this is that it teaches students to problem solve and think outside the box. The real world is not made up of easy solutions."

Janiqua Gray, a top performing student at Elizabeth High School stated, "It made me think more logically than mathematically. Because I am planning to study chemical engineering in college, this type of problem is really important to know how to solve."

Miguel Meireles, AP computer science student at EHS said, "It didn't just test levels of math understanding, it tested levels of exhaustion which will be related to my major - computer software engineering."



The Traditional Spanish Art of Flamenco



As part of their annual whole school project **Dr. Orlando Edreira Academy School No. 26** hosted a Flamenco ensemble who taught students the basics of the art. UNESCO in 2010 honored Flamenco as one of the *Masterpieces of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity*.

Students learned and performed the *baile* (dance) *palmas* (handclapping) and *pitos* (finger snapping) while accompanied by beautiful *toque* (guitar playing) and percussion.

Variety Show held at School No. 18



On Wednesday, March 2nd, middle school students at **Robert Morris School No. 18** participated in a Variety Show much to the delight of fellow students, parents, teachers, and community members. The audience was treated to an array of singing, dancing, comedy, an impressive performance by The Owl Band, School 18's talented After School Guitar and Drum Club, and even a sneak peek from the Spring Musical "Annie".

School 18's principal, Mr. Crespo says, "It's impressive to see such well-rounded students proving that their skills and capabilities reach far beyond just the classroom."

Room 105 Loves You!

To celebrate Valentine's Day and in keeping with **Elmora School No. 12's** school theme of "How Full is Your Bucket?" students in Dr. Holmes' first grade class made valentines for the entire school.

Their concept was to spread the love throughout the school and show other children that they were loved. The most fun was valentine delivery service as teams of students traveled all over the school bringing joy to other classes.



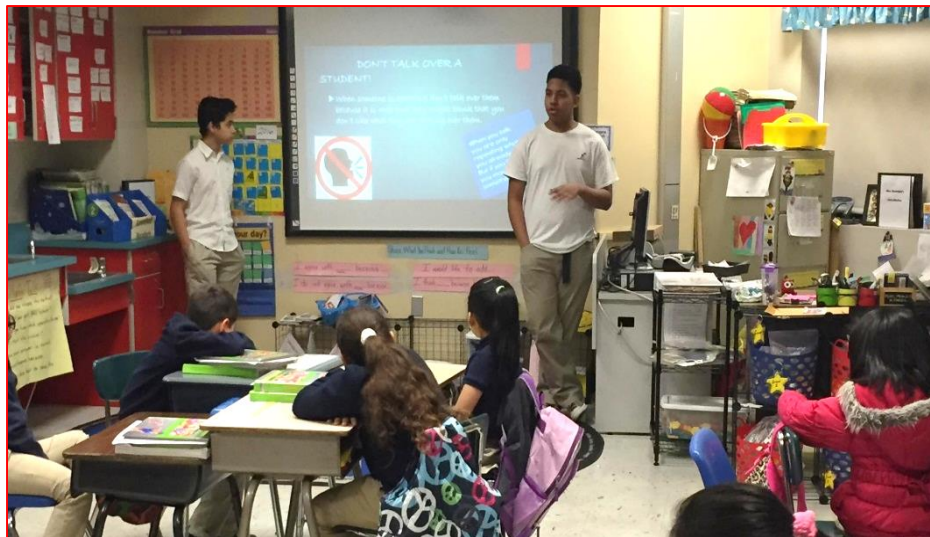
Students Attend United Nations Youth Forum



Seven students from **Alexander Hamilton Preparatory Academy** were provided with an opportunity to see international diplomacy at work when they attended the United Nations Economic and Social Youth Forum, along with guidance counselor Edison Berrio. Participants, who were selected on the basis of academic performance and interest in global affairs, were privileged to attend private meetings with Ms. Solveig Horne, Minister of Children, Equality and Social Inclusion of Norway and Ms. Ingrid Nemec, Head Section for Family and Youth Ministry for Family and Youth of Austria where they participated in interactive discussions. Students listened, observed, and noted discussions of the role of nations, states, and local youth councils on the formulation of public policies.

Nomar Abad commented on the experience, *What we found important about this opportunity is the fact that we learned so much about youth and how we can get involved in the formulation of the United Nations 17 Sustainable Development Goals 2030.* This is certainly an experience that will inspire students in all their future endeavors.

Character Education in Action



As part of **Nicholas S. LaCorte-Peterstown School No. 3's** Character Education Initiative, seventh grade students, Steve Sanchez and Steven Puello, created and presented a PowerPoint presentation on how to treat others with kindness.

Steve and Steven presented this lesson to second grade students. They reflected on and shared their own experiences in dealing with conflict resolution, forgiveness, and respect. Their presentation also incorporated School No. 3's Core Values.

The Ransom of Mercy Carter

While reading *The Ransom of Mercy Carter*, seventh grade students at **iPrep Academy School No. 8** explored both character trait analysis and Native American traditional art. Students identified the spirit animals that corresponded to their favorite characters and gave an explanation to justify their choices while also making sure to cite evidence from the novel. To finish off the project, students had a chance to be creative and design their own mini totem poles in a way that would represent their animal and character.



EHS Jazz Bands

The **Elizabeth High School** Upper and Lower Academy Jazz Bands performed and competed on Friday, March 4, 2016 at JP Stevens High School in Edison, NJ.

The EHS Upper Academy Jazz Ensemble came in 2nd place out of 13 jazz bands from throughout the state! The band also won two outstanding soloists awards for Francisco Cabrera on guitar and Jessa St. Laurent on trumpet.

The EHS Lower Academy Jazz Band placed 2nd in the "Lab bands" and 6th out of 13 overall. The Band was

awarded Outstanding Trombone Section. The trombone section is comprised of students Paola Gonzalez, Justin Dolalas, Pedro Gonzalez, Edika Quevedo, and Jose Magana. In addition, Diego Garcia, a tenor saxophonist in the band was recognized as an outstanding soloist.

The Challenger

Students from **Winfield Scott School No. 2, Thomas Jefferson Arts Academy, John E. Dwyer Technology Academy, and Admiral William F. Halsey, Jr. Health & Public Safety Academy** presented at City Hall for the 30th anniversary of the Challenger disaster. Students presented facts and Winfield Scott School No. 2 students made a model of the Challenger out of recycled goods.



'Strings Night Out' at Thomas Jefferson Arts Academy



Ms. Shakura M. Ismail, Elizabeth High School string teacher hosted an enlightening musical event entitled "*A Strings Night Out*" located at **Thomas Jefferson Arts Academy**. The intent of this program was to build rapport and foster string education throughout secondary education. During this event, teachers were able to showcase their ensembles' talents as well as collaborate and share creative ideas.

School No. 28 celebrates having a Judge Free Zone

Recently **Juan Pablo Duarte-José Julián Martí School No. 28** founded a Play Unified club made up of 7th and 8th grade students with a desire to bring their school community closer together. The club's mission is to make sure all students be accepted and included in our school.

The Play Unified students put together an assembly in order to inform their fellow classmates about the club and its initiatives. Students spoke about the importance of making everyone feel included. The audience also heard from two members of our school's MD classes, who spoke about being just like everyone else despite how they might look or learn.

The district's own Paul Murphy also spoke to the students about his experiences and background in special education. To close the assembly every student signed a pledge to be accepting of everyone and received a Judge Free Zone bracelet as a reminder of what they learned that day.



Superintendent's Scholars



John E. Dwyer Technology Academy is honored to have 35 Superintendent's Scholars for the Second Marking Period of the 2015-2016 school year. These students have proven themselves to be leaders in both their academic programs and school community. The scholars were awarded certificates.



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