

2024-2025 Profile



27 Martin Luther King Jr., Plaza
Elizabeth, NJ 07201
(908)436-6767
<https://www.epsnj.org/jefferson>

HISTORY

The school was first built in 1928 as an all-boys high school and named for the primary author of the Declaration of Independence and the third president of the United States. The school is now a high school academy located in the heart of Elizabeth's business district. It is the center for the district's visual and performing arts programs serving over 1,000 students. Our arts programs develop students' senses of aesthetics and personal expression to further refine their creative talents. Thomas Jefferson Arts Academy maintains a treasured past, a bright future, and a deep commitment to our shared mission: to provide excellent education experience and services that will inspire every student to think, to learn, to achieve, and to care.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Olga Hugelmeyer

Principal

Dr. Mona Wanis

Administrators

Alexandra Mickens

Gabrielle Richa

Fatimah Bey

SCHOOL RECOGNITION

Selected as Model School in the Arts by the NJ Arts Education Partnership as well as recognized in the Washington Post's Challenge Index of NJ High Schools, and the Grammy Signature Schools Community Award. Widest variety of performing and visual arts curriculum of any high school in Union County, NJ. Partnerships with Paper Mill Playhouse, the Visual Arts Center of New Jersey, Elizabeth Youth Theatre Ensemble (EYTE), The Theater Project, Montclair State University, NJIT and other organizations.

SCHOOL COUNSELORS

- Jameela Abdus – Salaam
abdus-salaamja@epsnj.org
- Natasha Carter
carterna@epsnj.org
- Dayana Gil
gildayana@epsnj.org
- Cindy Goncalves
goncalvesci@epsnj.org
- Imani Lewars
lewarsmi@epsnj.org

CEEB code: 310306



SCHOOL INFORMATION

Students in
the class

290

Counselor
caseload

230

Percent of students who
participate in
low-income programs

81%

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

120 credits are required for graduation.
Full year courses receive 5 or 10
credits, for single or double period classes.

SUBJECT REQUIREMENTS

- ✓ 4 Years English (20 credits)
- ✓ 3 Years Mathematics (15 credits)
- ✓ 3 Years Science (15 credits)
- ✓ 4 Years Physical Education /Health (20 credits)

- ✓ 3 Years History (15 credits)
- ✓ 2 Years World Language (10 credits)
- ✓ 1 Year Visual and Performing Arts (5 credits)
- ✓ 1 Year Personal Finance (2.5 credits)
- ✓ 1 Year Career and Technical Education (5 credits)

GRADE SCALE

LETTER	PERCENT	GPA	GPA Honors/AP
A+	97 – 100	4.35	5.35
A	93 – 96	4.0	5.0
A-	90 – 92	3.65	4.65
B+	87 – 89	3.35	4.35
B	83 – 86	3.0	4.0
B-	80 – 82	2.65	3.65
C+	77 – 79	2.35	3.35
C	73 – 76	2.0	3.0
C-	70 – 72	1.65	2.65
D+	67 – 69	1.35	2.35
D	63 – 66	1.0	2.0
F	0 – 62	0	0
I	Incomplete		
X	Doctor's Excuse		
W	Withdraw		

CLASS OF 2024

Attending a
4-year
college

50%

Attending a
2-year
college

24%

Pursuing career,
military,
gap year

26%

AP BY THE NUMBERS

327
exams
given

12
courses
offered

14% score of 3

7% score of 4

1% score of 5



TJAA COURSE OFFERINGS

TJAA CLUBS

- * Acapella Chorus
- * Book Club
- * Dance Club/NHSDA
- * Drama Club
- * Jefferson Amped
- * National Honor Society
- * Podcast Club
- * Science Club
- * Skills USA Club
- * Broadcast Media Club
- * Visual Arts Club/NAHS
- * Writing Club
- * Yearbook Club
- * SOUL Club

English:

English I, II, III, IV, English I Honors, English II Honors, English Language (AP), English Literature and Composition (AP)

Mathematics:

Geometry, Geometry Honors, Algebra I Advanced, Algebra II, Algebra II Honors, Pre-Calculus, Pre-Calculus (AP), Calculus AB (AP), Statistics (AP)

Social Studies:

World History Culture, World History (AP), US History I, US History I Honors, US History II, US History II Honors, US History (AP)

Science:

Biology, Biology Honors, Biology (AP), Chemistry, Chemistry Honors, Environmental Science, Environmental Science Honors

Physical Education/Health Education:

Physical Education/Health I, II, III, IV

World Language:

Spanish I, II, Spanish Language (AP), French I, II, III

Visual and Performing Arts:

Drawing/Painting I, II, Drawing/Painting III & IV Honors, Sculpture I, II, Studio Art 2D (AP) & Drawing (AP), Drama I, II, Drama III & IV Honors, Dance I, II, Dance III & IV Honors, Chorus I, II, Chorus III & IV Honors, Concert Band I, II, Concert Band III & IV Honors, Guitar I, II, Guitar III & IV Honors

Career and Technical Education:

Music Technology I, II, Theater Technology, Set Design & Woodworking, Graphic Design I, II, III, IV, Broadcast Media Production I, II, III, Film & Video Production IV Honors, Commercial Photography I, II, III, Commercial Photography III & IV Honors, AVID 9, 10, 11, 12,