



Newark School of Data Science & Information Technology

Dr. Liana Summey, Principal



August 7, 2026

Dear Newark School of Data Science & Information Technology Students and Families,

Welcome to the 2026-2027 School Year! I am Dr. Liana Summey, proud Principal of the Newark School of Data Science & Information Technology. As we prepare for a new academic year, I am excited to welcome our students and families into the next phase of our school's growth and vision, in alignment with the Newark Board of Education's theme for 2026-2027 - **No Stopping Us Now**. This year, we launch our new strategic plan, **Excellence by Design: Blueprint for the Next Five Years**. This plan forecasts the next five years of our school's continued growth, innovation, and impact. For the 2026-2027 school year, our focus is **Entering the New Era**.

Entering the New Era means moving forward with purpose, clarity, and high expectations. It means strengthening the systems that support student success, expanding access to rigorous opportunities such as AP, early college, CTE, technology, certifications, and leadership experiences, and ensuring that every student is prepared to thrive in a changing world. We are not simply planning for one school year. We are building the next five years of excellence, opportunity, and student-centered success.

At the Newark School of Data Science & Information Technology, we **INSPIRE** the future technology leaders and change agents of tomorrow. Our values, **Innovation, Navigation, Sustainability, Passion, Inclusion, Relevance, and Excellence**, guide our daily work. Through collaborative effort among students, families, staff, and the community, we ensure that our young people grow into skilled, confident, and compassionate leaders.

Please review the important information below to prepare for a strong start to the school year.

Important Information

Freshman Summer Bridge Program: Monday, August 24 - Friday, August 28, 2026 | 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Summer Bridge is mandatory for all incoming 9th grade students. We look forward to welcoming our newest Circuit scholars!

Student Orientation Dates

All students are required to attend their grade-level orientation prior to the first day of school.

Thursday, August 27, 2026

Seniors: 8:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Juniors: 12:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Friday, August 28, 2026

Freshmen: 8:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Sophomores: 12:00 PM - 3:00 PM

First Day of School: Tuesday, September 8, 2026

Daily Start & Dismissal: 8:15 AM - 3:05 PM

Students should arrive daily by 8:15 AM ready to learn and grow.



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Attendance Matters: Students are expected to attend school every day. Consistent attendance is critical to academic and social success.

Lunch Applications: All families must complete a new lunch application for the 2026-2027 school year. Please complete the form [here](#).

School Uniforms: All students must be in full uniform each day: Kelly Green polo shirt with black pants or skirt. Hunter Green is not permitted. Uniforms can be purchased at:

- Flynn O'Hara: 544 Raymond Blvd, Newark, NJ
- Kids Place: 311 Ferry Street, Newark, NJ
- SchoolBasics: Visit schoolbasics.com/nj0109 for information.

Student Entry

All students enter through the Chapman Street entrance beginning at 7:45 AM each morning.

Back to School Night: Tuesday, September 22, 2026 | 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Join us to meet your child's teachers, learn about their academic program, and tour the building.

Principal Weekly Newsletter: The Data Dispatch is emailed to families every Sunday with important updates, dates, events, and resources, so please ensure your email address is current in both PowerSchool and SchoolMint.

Website: <https://www.nps.k12.nj.us/data-science/>

Instagram: @nps_datascience

Facebook: NPS Data Science

Additional information regarding afterschool programs, schedules, ID distribution, and technology access will be shared during orientation and via Blackboard, our school messaging system. For questions, please contact our main office at 973-350-5088, email Paula Durango at pdurango@nps.k12.nj.us, or contact our Parent Liaison, Sean Holmes, at s1holmes@nps.k12.nj.us.

Let's make 2026-2027 a powerful year of growth, purpose, and impact. Together, we are Entering the New Era and building Excellence by Design, and there's No Stopping Us Now.

With excitement and gratitude,

Dr. Liana M. Summey

Principal

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973-350-5088