SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

ESSEX ELEMENTARY SCHOOL BUILDING PROJECT

UPCOMING COMMUNITY MEETINGS

PRSRT STD
ECRWSS
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
EDDM RETAIL

NOVEMBER 20 @ 6:00 PM
At Essex Elementary School

In-person building tours starting at 4:30 PM
Childcare will be provided!
Agenda: Review site and alternatives
Join in person: EES Cafeteria, 12 Story St., Essex
Or via zoom: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82584703859

DECEMBER 9 @ 6:00 PM
At Memorial Elementary School

In-person building tours starting at 4:30 PM
Childcare will be provided!
Agenda: Recap of the EES project to date
Join in person: MMES, 43 Lincoln St., Manchester-by-the-Sea
Or via zoom: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81635599071

Manchester Essex Regional School District

DORE + WHITTIER

JCJARCHITECTURE

ESSEX ELEMENTARY SCHOOL BUILDING PROJECT

SAVE THE DATES!

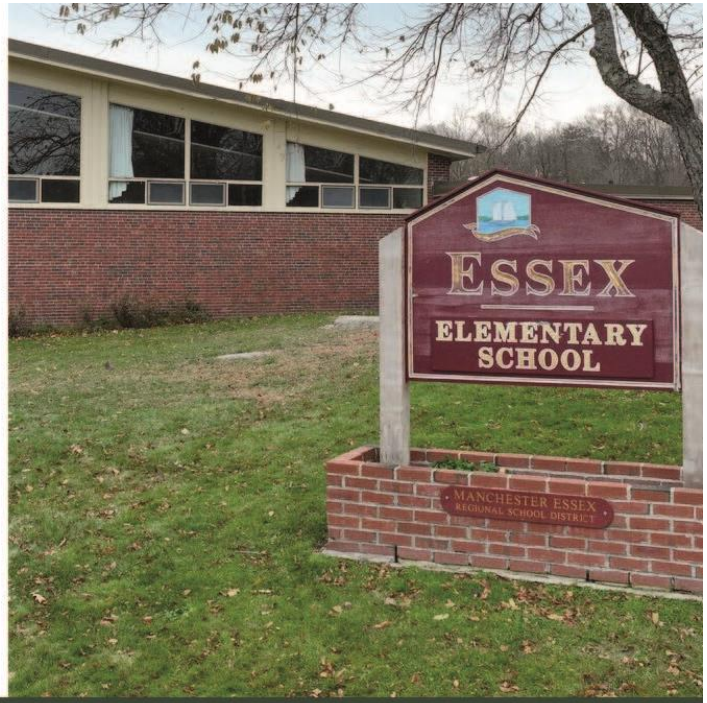
UPCOMING COMMUNITY MEETINGS

November 20 @ Essex Elementary School

December 9 @ Manchester Memorial Elementary School

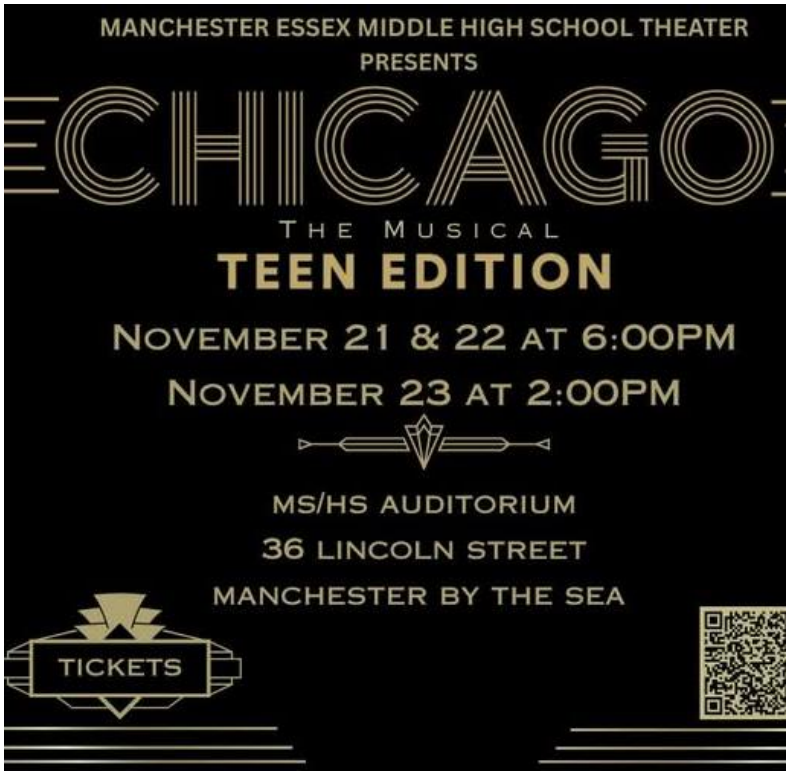
Hybrid meetings begin at 6:00 PM
In-person building tours at 4:30 PM

See details on reverse



For project information, visit: mersdessexelementaryproject.com

SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE



Best of luck to our cast and crew!

- Shout-out to Vidula Plante and her students for a wonderful Veterans Day Assembly.
- Thank you to all who contributed to a successful Spaulding Education Fund Night of Stars. Our student and staff performers shined, showcasing incredible talent and community spirit!
  - The event closed with an exciting preview of Chicago, opening this weekend.

SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

Community Inquiry on AP Sections

Q: How many AP classes are singletons?

A: 17 AP classes are singletons.

- Includes **2 combined Art classes**
- Includes **2 combined French classes**

Q: How many AP classes have 8 students or fewer?

A: Five AP courses fall into this category:

- **AP 3D Art (8)** — combined with **AP Studio Art (3)**
- **AP Computer Science A (5)**
- **AP French IV/V** — combined (**3 in French IV, 1 in French V**)
- **AP Physics 2 (6)** — senior-only; offered every other year
- **AP Spanish Literature (8)** — senior-level; **Spanish Language has 26**

SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

Community Inquiry on AP Sections

- **Q: How many students take 3 AP classes?**
- **A:** 46 students are enrolled in 3 AP courses.

- **Q: How many students take 4 or more AP classes?**
- **A:** 30 students are enrolled in 4 or more AP courses.

- **Q: How many students earned a score of 4 or 5 on AP exams?**
- **A:** 112 students (2024–25) earned a 4 or 5 on at least one AP exam.

Note:While many colleges award credit only for 4s and 5s, some do award credit for 3s.

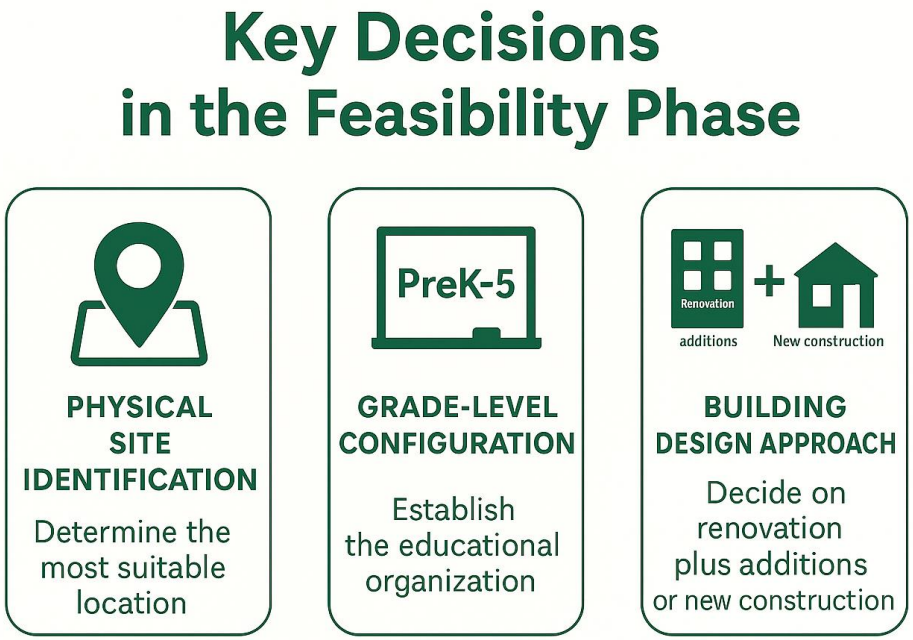


SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

North Shore Regional Superintendent Group Chapter 70 Input - Summary

- Chapter 70 is outdated — the 32-year-old formula no longer reflects actual district demographics, costs, or community capacity, leaving more than 70% of districts "held harmless" and unable to keep up with inflation.
- Property values distort ability to pay — EQV overstates local wealth, especially in "silver communities," driving up required contributions and forcing towns to choose between education and essential municipal services.
- Special education funding is unsustainable — capped assumptions and soaring out-of-district tuition costs create structural deficits, push cuts to staff/programs, and require frequent overrides.
- Rising fixed costs aren't captured — health insurance, transportation, competitive wages, and OSD-regulated special education tuition outpace the formula, causing minimum-aid districts to fall farther behind.
- A modernized, transparent, adaptable formula is needed — one that uses accurate income-based capacity measures, reevaluates every four years, and creates a dedicated special education funding mechanism.

SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE



SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

Feasibility Study **Essex Elementary Student Enrollment Configurations to be Studied**		
Grades PreK–3 165 Students *Sited in Essex w/ Grades 4 & 5 integrated into Memorial*	Grades PreK–5 250 Students *Sited in Essex*	Grades PreK–5 515 students *Sited at Manchester Memorial with all Essex & Manchester students in one school*
SC Program Vote / Redistricting		SC Program Vote / Redistricting
SC Vote to Amend Regional Agreement		SC Vote to Amend Regional Agreement
Essex & Manchester Town Meeting Vote to Approve Regional Agreement Amendment		Essex & Manchester Town Meeting Vote to Approve Regional Agreement Amendment
Essex & Manchester Town Meeting Full Project Vote & Debt Exclusion Vote		

SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

Summary of Operational Estimated Costs/Savings for Grade Configuration Options 1 & 3

	Configuration Option 1 PreK-3 EES 4-5 @ Memorial	Configuration Option 3 All Students @ Memorial	Notes
Daily Transportation	**$115,200**	**$115,200**	*Additional bus needed in both configurations / Runs to Manchester +6-8 Minutes*
Morning/Afternoon Runs	$92,700	$92,700	
Late Bus	$22,500	$22,500	
Staffing	**$110,000**	**-$135,000**	*Addition of PreK Teacher & Coordinator Stiped in both configurations / Reduction of 1 Nurs & Library TA in Option 3*
Utilities		**-$113,000**	*Assumes a 25K-30K Sq Ft Addition to Current Memorial*
Facilities Rental		**$100,000**	*Assumes Loss of Tennis Courts to Parking Seasonal Tennis Court Rental / $250-500K Replacement + Site Acquistion Cost Unknown*
Estimated Operational Savings / Costs	**$225,200**	**-$32,800**	

MERSD - Projected Essex Elementary – Projected Timeline For Planning Purposes

MSBA Module/Actions	Length	Potential Timeline	
Module 1 - Eligibility	**270**	**March 4, 2024**	**11/29/24**
BOD Authorization invite to eligibility	0 days		
Initial Compliance Certification	30 days	3/4/2024	4/4/2024
SBC	60 days	3/4/2024	5/3/2024
**Educational Profile Questionnaire*	90 days		6/3/2024
Enrollment Projections	90 days		6/3/2024
Maintenance & Capital Planning Information	130 days		8/30/2024
Enrollment Meeting	180 days		8/30/2024
Local authorization of funding	270 days		11/29/2024
BOD Authorization invite to F&S	270 days		11/29/2024
Module 2 – Forming the Project Team	**185 days**	**Wed 11/29/24**	**Tue 8/12/25**
Key Activities *Hire Owners Project Manager (OPM)* *Hire Designer (Architect)* *MSBA Approvals*			
Module 3 – Feasibility Study	**202 days**	**Wed 8/13/25**	**Thu 5/21/26**
Key Activities *PDP (Preliminary Design Program)* *PSD (Preferred Schematic Design)* *MSBA Approval*			
Module 4 – Schematic Design	**151 days**	**Fri 5/22/26**	**Fri 12/18/26**
Key Activities *Schematic Design* *MSBA Approval*			
Module 5 - Local Actions/approvals	**70 days**	**Mon 10/26/26**	**Fri 1/29/27**
Final Appropriation / Fall Town Meeting	50 days	Mon 10/26/26	Fri 1/1/27
Module 6 – Detailed Design			
Module 7 – Construction			
Module 8 – Project Closeout			

FEASIBILITY FUNDING

Existing Conditions /Site Development /Educational program /Develop Prelim Alternatives /Final Evaluation of Alternatives

We Are Here

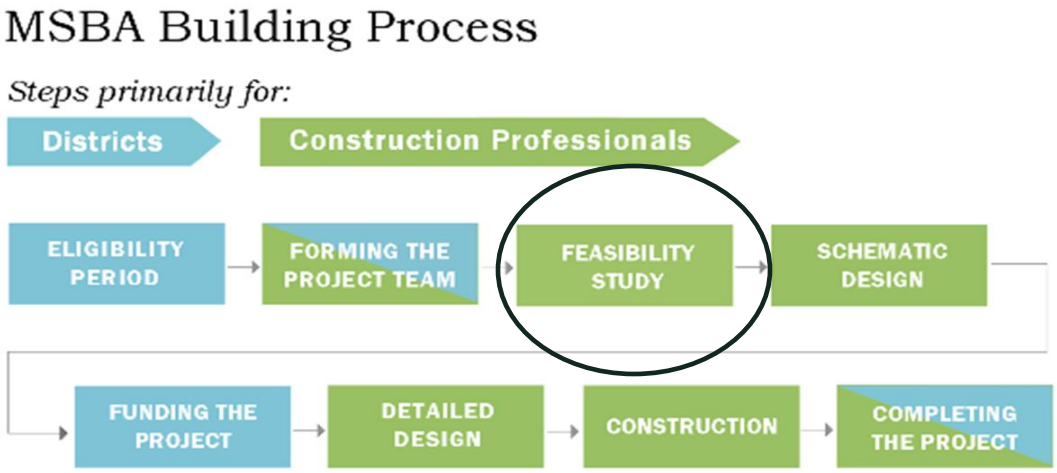
**Can indicate interest in studying consolidation/reconfiguration.*

SUPERINTENDENT'S UPDATE

Essex Elementary Building Project

- ✓ Forming the Project Team Phase
  - Owner's Project Manager on Board – Dore & Whittier
  - Designer on Board – JCJ Architecture

- ➢ Feasibility Study
  - *PDP (Preliminary Design Program)*
  - *PSD (Preferred Schematic Design)*
  - *MSBA Approval*



Essex School Building Committee

Fall 2025 Meeting Schedule

Location: Essex Elementary Cafeteria / Webex

Time: 6:00 – 8:00 PM

November 20 (Thursday) – Essex SBC Community Meeting

November 25 (Tuesday) – Business Meeting

December 9 (Tuesday) – Essex SBC Community Meeting

December 15 (Monday) – Business Meeting

📌 *Note: Business meeting time is typically the **4th Tuesday of each month.***

FY 27 PRELIMINARY BUDGET ASSUMPTIONS

FY27 Budget Drivers (Estimated – November 18, 2025)		
Expenditures:		
Health Insurance	$ 1,032,000	20.0%
COLA - META	$ 422,000	2.5%
Steps META	$ 166,000	
COLA Non union	$ 63,000	2.5%
OOD tuitions	$ 71,000	3.4%
Transportation	$ 97,000	10.0%
Utilities	$ 22,000	4.0%
Total - Budget Driver Increase (Estimated)	$ 1,873,000	
Revenues:		
Chapter 70 Estimated Revenue Increase	$ 166,200	