

# WEST ESSEX REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Superintendent of Schools

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Dear Elementary District Families,

My name is Damion Macioci, and I have the privilege of serving as the Superintendent of Schools for the West Essex Regional School District, which welcomes students from the four elementary districts of Essex Fells, Fairfield, North Caldwell, and Roseland. Together, we form one unified school community, and I am writing to keep you informed about the referendum project currently underway in our district and to ensure you remain fully connected as our planning progresses.

As you know, our four elementary districts come together to form one regional school community for grades 7-12. In keeping with our shared commitment to open communication and transparency, I am writing to provide an update on our school district's ongoing referendum planning and to invite you to be included in our future communications on this important initiative.

Over the past several months, our Board of Education and district administration have been engaged in the early phases of planning for a referendum. Four formal communications have already been shared with our regional school community, outlining progress and next steps. Below is a brief summary of those updates:

## **Summary of Recent Referendum Communications**

### **August 2025:**

The Board of Education announced the need to pursue a referendum to address critical facility needs at both the middle and high schools. An architectural firm began conducting a comprehensive assessment of our buildings and campus, with an emphasis on transparency, responsible planning, and long-term educational needs.

### **September 2025:**

A referendum update was presented at the September Board meeting. The district continued its collaboration with the architect to review conditions, some dating back to the original 1960s construction, and initiated a comprehensive demographic study to analyze enrollment patterns, population trends, and housing growth. Work also began with the district's bond company to evaluate cost scenarios and taxpayer impact. A [Referendum Information Page](#) and access to Board meeting information were made available to support community engagement.

### **October 2025:**

The district shared additional details regarding prioritized facility needs. Plans under consideration include instructional space renovations, improvements to heating and ventilation systems, expanded HVAC (heating, ventilation, and air conditioning) installations at the middle school, enhanced safety and security

measures, and upgrades to outdoor facilities supporting physical education, athletics, and the arts. The demographic study results are expected to guide long-term planning. The Board noted that November 2026 is the most likely referendum date, as it carries no additional cost to the district.

**November 2025:**

Most recently, the Board completed in-depth walkthroughs of both schools and outdoor spaces. Needs have now been categorized as low, medium, or high priority. Areas under review include door and hardware replacements, window upgrades, media center renovations, HVAC improvements, and enhancements to outdoor fields and facilities. The district is awaiting the demographic study results to ensure future planning aligns with projected enrollment and community growth. A follow-up Board meeting has been scheduled for February 2026, with continued updates through the district website and social media.

**Invitation to Join Future Communications**

While these updates have been shared with our regional school community, we recognize that our elementary sending districts are essential partners in the education of our students and in the future of our shared school community. Although we represent four municipalities, we serve one population of students and families.

To strengthen communication across all sending districts, we would like to offer you the opportunity to receive all future referendum-related updates directly from the West Essex Regional School District. If you would like to be included in future messages, please complete the brief [Referendum Communication Form](#).

We value our partnership with each of your districts and believe it is important that all communities contributing to our regional schools remain informed as this process continues. Maintaining consistent, open lines of communication will help ensure thoughtful planning and a shared understanding of the needs of our students.

If you have questions or would like additional information, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Thank you for your collaboration and continued commitment to supporting our students.

Sincerely,



Damion Macioci  
Superintendent of Schools