


# Demographic and Enrollment Report

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Consulting

# Executive Summary

The West Essex Regional High School District is a  limited purpose regional which serves the following K-6 school districts:

- Essex Fells
- Fairfield
- North Caldwell
- Roseland

The total enrollment in the West Essex Regional High School District increased from 1,624 students in 2020-21 to 1,650 in 2025. This is an increase of twenty-six  over five years or approximately 1.52%. The projection indicates that the enrollment will decline by thirty-five students which is a decrease of forty-five students or approximately 2.12%.

With the exception of the North Caldwell School District the elementary schools are showing relative stability over the next five years.

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| Essex Fells | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 2020 | | 2025 | | Change |
| Population | 2,037 | | 2,320 | | 283 |
| Median Age | 44.60 | | 43.80 | | (0.80) |
| Median Income | $149,688.00 | | $180,625.00 | | $30,937.00 |
| Mean Income | $303,913.00 | | $373,299.00 | | $69,386.00 |
| | | Percentage of Population | | Percentage of Population | |
| White | 1780.00 | 87.38% | 1875.00 | 80.82% | -6.56% |
| Black | 5.00 | 0.25% | 43.00 | 1.85% | 1.61% |
| Asian | 61.00 | 2.99% | 106.00 | 4.57% | 1.57% |
| Other | 0.00 | 0.00% | 10.00 | 0.43% | 0.00% |
| Multi-Racial | 191.00 | 9.38% | 286.00 | 12.33% | 2.95% |

| Fairfield | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 2020 | | 2025 | | Change |
| Population | 9440 | | 10143 | | 703 |
| Median Age | 37.80 | | 38.00 | | 0.20 |
| Median Income | $79,798.00 | | $91,250.00 | | $11,452.00 |
| Mean Income | $100,298.00 | | $107,500.00 | | $7,202.00 |
| | | Percentage of Population | | Percentage of Population | |
| White | 7860 | 83.26% | 7281 | 71.78% | -11.48% |
| Black | 247 | 2.62% | 406 | 4.00% | 1.39% |
| Nat Am/Alaskin | 12 | 0.13% | 10 | 0.10% | -0.03% |
| Asian | 543 | 5.75% | 479 | 4.72% | -1.03% |
| Other | 472 | 5.00% | 1142 | 11.26% | 6.26% |
| Multi Racial | 306 | 3.24% | 825 | 8.13% | 4.89% |

## Selected Community Demographics

Note: The population in 2025 is based upon estimates from the American Community Survey (US Census).

| Roseland | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 2020 | | 2025 | | Change |
| Population | 5,841 | | 6,211 | | 370 |
| Median Age | 44.60 | | 47.00 | | 2.40 |
| Median Income | $145,944.00 | | $160,644.00 | | $14,700.00 |
| Mean Income | $176,764.00 | | $186,979.00 | | $10,215.00 |
| | | Percentage of Population | | Percentage of Population | |
| White | 4905 | 83.98% | 4695 | 75.59% | -8.38% |
| Black | 0 | 0.00% | 30 | 0.48% | 0.48% |
| Nat Am/Alaskin | 0 | 0.00% | 0 | 0.00% | 0.00% |
| Asian | 354 | 6.06% | 763 | 12.28% | 6.22% |
| Other | 101 | 1.73% | 12 | 0.19% | -1.54% |
| Multi-Racial | 481 | 8.23% | 711 | 11.45% | 3.21% |

| North Caldwell | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 2020 | | 2025 | | Change |
| Population | 6,694 | | 6,622 | | -72 |
| Median Age | 45.40 | | 46.20 | | 0.80 |
| Median Income | $188,750.00 | | $203,140.00 | | $14,390.00 |
| Mean Income | $259,999.00 | | $296,349.00 | | $36,350.00 |
| | | Percentage of Population | | Percentage of Population | |
| White | 5556 | 83.00% | 5351 | 80.81% | -2.19% |
| Black | 88 | 1.31% | 153 | 2.31% | 1.00% |
| Nat Am/Alaskin | 10 | 0.15% | | 0.00% | -0.15% |
| Asian | 522 | 7.80% | 671 | 10.13% | 2.33% |
| Other | 97 | 1.45% | 39 | 0.59% | -0.86% |
| Multi-Racial | 421 | 6.29% | 408 | 6.16% | -0.13% |

## Selected Community Demographics

| West Essex Regional Selected Demographics | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 2020 | | 2025 | | Change |
| Enrollment | 1,624 | | 1,650 | | 26 |
| | | Percentage of Enrollment | | Percentage of Enrollment | |
| White | 1330 | 81.90% | 1321 | 80.07% | 1.83% |
| Black | 37 | 2.28% | 40 | 2.45% | -0.17% |
| Hispanic | 131 | 8.07% | 141 | 8.56% | -0.49% |
| Asian | 93 | 5.73% | 115 | 6.97% | -1.24% |
| Native Am/Alaskin Nat | | | | | |
| Hawaiian /PI | | | 1 | 0.03% | |
| Multi-Racial | 33 | 2.03% | 32 | 1.92% | -1.92% |
| Free Lunch | 24 | 1.45% | 32 | 2.80% | -1.35% |
| Reduced Lunch | 1 | 0.08% | 46 | 1.10% | -1.02% |
| ELL/MLL | 1 | 0.04% | 18 | 0.06% | -0.02% |

This table shows selected demographics for the Regional. The table generally is in line with the community demographics. It is important to note that while that the Hispanic enrollment is 8.5% there is no percentage of the Hispanic population in the community tables. After checking several sources (primarily the American Community Survey-US Department of Census) we cannot find any data showing this population in any of the sending communities. We are assuming that either it is not being reported or being reported as “other” or “multi-racial”.

## Selected School Demographics

# Methodology

- To develop projections the cohort survival methodology is used.
  - Cohort values greater than 1.0 indicate growth, cohort values less than 1.0 indicate declines, and values at 1.0 indicate stability.
  - Assume 100 1st graders.
    - In the next year there are 98 2nd graders.
    - The cohort survival for that year is 0.98
  - This method is applied to all grades over multiple years. The average annual cohort survival is then used to project future years.
  - Kindergarten students are estimated using the number of live births in the district 5 years prior (e.g., 2027 Kindergarten enrollment assumes 2022 births) and the number of students who enroll in Kindergarten.
    - Assume 100 births in 2014.
    - Assume 110 Kindergarten enrollments in 2019.
    - The cohort value for that year is 1.1
    - As with other grades, this value is averaged over a period of years to determine the multiple for K.
    - In the absence of complete or comprehensive data, long-term running averages can be used for Kindergarten.
- Adjustments can be made for housing based on status, housing type, and expected student yield from each development.
- Results are aggregated by grade for district-wide projections and disaggregated to develop school-based projections.

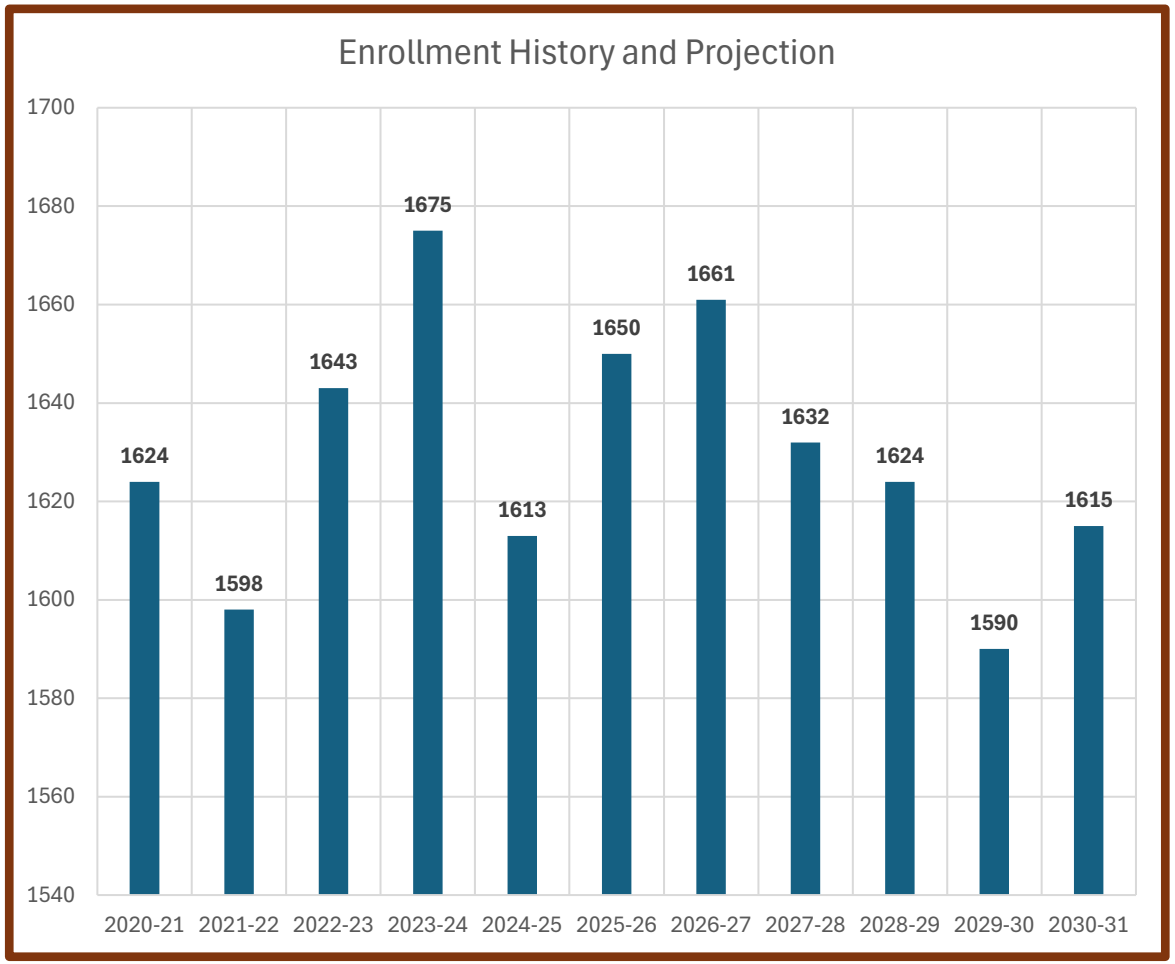
Note: Typically birth to kindergarten differences are used to project kindergarten. In the case of the sending districts, we could not use this method, instead we used a moving average. The discrepancy between the births and the kindergarten enrollment was so different that using this method would have significantly skewed the projection. It is assumed the reason or this and the relative home prices in the communities would indicate that the preponderance of those moving into the communities come in with school aged children.

# Regional Enrollment History and Projection

| Year | 6 | | 7 | | 8 | | 9 | | 10 | | 11 | | 12 | 7-8 Subtotal | 9-12 Subtotal | 7-12 Total | Self-Contained | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2020-21 | 283 | | 271 | | 279 | | 265 | | 262 | | 264 | | 269 | 550 | 1,060 | 1,610 | 14 | 1,624 |
| | | 0.936 | | 1.015 | | 0.928 | | 0.974 | | 0.985 | | 1.030 | | | | | | |
| 2021-22 | 326 | | 265 | | 275 | | 259 | | 258 | | 258 | | 272 | 540 | 1,047 | 1,587 | 11 | 1,598 |
| | | 0.988 | | 1.023 | | 0.913 | | 1.004 | | 1.016 | | 1.012 | | | | | | |
| 2022-23 | 312 | | 322 | | 271 | | 251 | | 260 | | 262 | | 261 | 593 | 1,034 | 1,627 | 16 | 1,643 |
| | | 0.968 | | 0.981 | | 0.959 | | 1.024 | | 1.004 | | 1.019 | | | | | | |
| 2023-24 | 260 | | 302 | | 316 | | 260 | | 257 | | 261 | | 267 | 618 | 1,045 | 1,663 | 12 | 1,675 |
| | | 0.950 | | 1.013 | | 0.877 | | 0.992 | | 0.981 | | 1.011 | | | | | | |
| 2024-25 | 312 | | 247 | | 306 | | 277 | | 258 | | 252 | | 264 | 553 | 1,051 | 1,604 | 9 | 1,613 |
| | | 0.987 | | 1.012 | | 0.915 | | 0.993 | | 1.039 | | 1.028 | | | | | | |
| 2025-26 | 291 | | 308 | | 250 | | 280 | | 275 | | 268 | | 259 | 558 | 1,082 | 1,640 | 10 | 1,650 |
| | Av | 0.960 | | 1.009 | | 0.918 | | 0.997 | | 1.011 | | 1.022 | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2026-27 | 270 | | 279 | | 311 | | 230 | | 279 | | 278 | | 274 | 590 | 1,061 | 1,651 | 10 | 1,661 |
| 2027-28 | 301 | | 259 | | 282 | | 285 | | 229 | | 282 | | 284 | 541 | 1,081 | 1,622 | 10 | 1,632 |
| 2028-29 | 277 | | 289 | | 262 | | 259 | | 285 | | 231 | | 288 | 551 | 1,063 | 1,614 | 10 | 1,624 |
| 2029-30 | 285 | | 266 | | 292 | | 240 | | 258 | | 288 | | 237 | 558 | 1,023 | 1,580 | 10 | 1,590 |
| 2030-31 | 310 | | 274 | | 268 | | 268 | | 240 | | 261 | | 294 | 542 | 1,062 | 1,605 | 10 | 1,615 |

This table shows the enrollment history and projection between 2020-21 and 2030-31. Grade 6 is not counted in the total, as it is the total of grade six students from the sending district used to establish the multiplier to for projecting grade 7

# Regional Enrollment History and Projection



| Essex Fells | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Year | K | | 1 | | 2 | | 3 | | 4 | | 5 | | 6 | Subtotal K-6 | Grand Total |
| 2020-21 | 32 | | 26 | | 28 | | 31 | | 29 | | 39 | | 38 | 223 | 223 |
| | | 1.219 | | 1.077 | | 1.071 | | 1.000 | | 1.034 | | 1.000 | | | |
| 2021-22 | 29 | | 39 | | 28 | | 30 | | 31 | | 30 | | 39 | 226 | 226 |
| | | 1.034 | | 1.000 | | 1.036 | | 1.000 | | 1.000 | | 1.033 | | | |
| 2022-23 | 25 | | 30 | | 39 | | 29 | | 30 | | 31 | | 31 | 215 | 215 |
| | | 1.040 | | 1.033 | | 1.000 | | 1.000 | | 1.000 | | 0.968 | | | |
| 2023-24 | 37 | | 26 | | 31 | | 39 | | 29 | | 30 | | 30 | 222 | 222 |
| | | 1.000 | | 1.038 | | 1.032 | | 1.026 | | 1.034 | | 1.067 | | | |
| 2024-25 | 30 | | 37 | | 27 | | 32 | | 40 | | 30 | | 32 | 228 | 228 |
| | | 1.033 | | 1.081 | | 1.074 | | 1.031 | | 1.000 | | 1.000 | | | |
| 2025-26 | 34 | | 31 | | 40 | | 29 | | 33 | | 40 | | 30 | 237 | 237 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | 1.065 | | 1.046 | | 1.043 | | 1.011 | | 1.014 | | 1.014 | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2026-27 | 31 | | 36 | | 32 | | 42 | | 29 | | 33 | | 41 | 245 | 245 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2027-28 | 31 | | 33 | | 38 | | 34 | | 42 | | 30 | | 34 | 242 | 242 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2028-29 | 33 | | 33 | | 35 | | 40 | | 34 | | 43 | | 30 | 247 | 247 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2029-30 | 32 | | 35 | | 35 | | 36 | | 40 | | 35 | | 43 | 256 | 256 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2030-31 | 32 | | 34 | | 36 | | 36 | | 36 | | 41 | | 35 | 251 | 251 |

The Essex Fells School District increased it enrollment by fourteen students between 2020-25 and 2025-26. The enrollment is projected to increase marginally to 251 students by the 2030-31 school year.

## Essex Fells Enrollment History and Projection

| Fairfield | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Year | K | | 1 | | 2 | | 3 | | 4 | | 5 | | 6 | Subtotal K-6 | Grand Total |
| 2020-21 | 76 | | 99 | | 96 | | 87 | | 83 | | 122 | | 96 | 659 | 659 |
| | | 1.092 | | 1.010 | | 1.042 | | 0.920 | | 1.048 | | 0.975 | | | |
| 2021-22 | 97 | | 83 | | 100 | | 100 | | 80 | | 87 | | 119 | 666 | 666 |
| | | 0.856 | | 1.205 | | 1.000 | | 0.800 | | 1.088 | | 1.368 | | | |
| 2022-23 | 95 | | 96 | | 86 | | 108 | | 102 | | 84 | | 90 | 661 | 661 |
| | | 0.979 | | 1.031 | | 0.977 | | 1.019 | | 1.029 | | 1.012 | | | |
| 2023-24 | 95 | | 93 | | 99 | | 84 | | 110 | | 105 | | 85 | 671 | 671 |
| | | 0.968 | | 1.011 | | 1.030 | | 1.000 | | 0.991 | | 1.010 | | | |
| 2024-25 | 96 | | 92 | | 94 | | 102 | | 84 | | 109 | | 106 | 683 | 683 |
| | | 0.990 | | 0.902 | | 0.968 | | 0.931 | | 1.000 | | 0.899 | | | |
| 2025-26 | 89 | | 95 | | 83 | | 91 | | 95 | | 84 | | 98 | 635 | 635 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | 0.977 | | 1.032 | | 1.003 | | 0.934 | | 1.031 | | 1.053 | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2026-27 | 91 | | 87 | | 98 | | 83 | | 85 | | 98 | | 88 | 631 | 631 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2027-28 | 94 | | 89 | | 90 | | 98 | | 78 | | 88 | | 103 | 640 | 640 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2028-29 | 93 | | 92 | | 92 | | 90 | | 92 | | 80 | | 92 | 631 | 631 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2029-30 | 93 | | 91 | | 95 | | 92 | | 84 | | 95 | | 84 | 635 | 635 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2030-31 | 93 | | 91 | | 94 | | 95 | | 86 | | 87 | | 100 | 645 | 645 |

The Fairfield School District enrollment by 24 students between 2020-2025 school. The projection shows a marginal increase by 10 students over the next five years.

## Fairfield Enrollment History and Projection

| North Caldwell | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Year | K | | 1 | | 2 | | 3 | | 4 | | 5 | | 6 | Subtotal K-6 | Grand Total |
| 2020-21 | 60 | | 91 | | 93 | | 84 | | 105 | | 104 | | 91 | 628 | 628 |
| | | 1.133 | | 0.989 | | 1.097 | | 0.988 | | 1.038 | | 0.981 | | | |
| 2021-22 | 85 | | 68 | | 90 | | 102 | | 83 | | 109 | | 102 | 639 | 639 |
| | | 1.188 | | 1.191 | | 1.089 | | 1.010 | | 1.000 | | 1.009 | | | |
| 2022-23 | 86 | | 101 | | 81 | | 98 | | 103 | | 83 | | 110 | 662 | 662 |
| | | 1.070 | | 1.010 | | 1.062 | | 0.980 | | 1.010 | | 1.000 | | | |
| 2023-24 | 83 | | 92 | | 102 | | 86 | | 96 | | 104 | | 83 | 646 | 646 |
| | | 1.012 | | 1.076 | | 1.000 | | 0.977 | | 0.979 | | 0.971 | | | |
| 2024-25 | 99 | | 84 | | 99 | | 102 | | 84 | | 94 | | 101 | 663 | 663 |
| | | 1.030 | | 1.024 | | 0.980 | | 1.059 | | 0.988 | | 1.032 | | | |
| 2025-26 | 87 | | 102 | | 86 | | 97 | | 108 | | 83 | | 97 | 660 | 660 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | 1.087 | | 1.058 | | 1.045 | | 1.003 | | 1.003 | | 0.999 | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2026-27 | 83 | | 95 | | 108 | | 90 | | 97 | | 108 | | 83 | 664 | 664 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2027-28 | 87 | | 91 | | 100 | | 113 | | 90 | | 98 | | 108 | 686 | 686 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2028-29 | 88 | | 95 | | 96 | | 105 | | 113 | | 90 | | 97 | 684 | 684 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2029-30 | 88 | | 95 | | 100 | | 100 | | 105 | | 113 | | 90 | 692 | 692 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2030-31 | 89 | | 95 | | 101 | | 105 | | 100 | | 105 | | 113 | 709 | 709 |

North Caldwell is the only one of the sending districts showing more than marginal growth. This factored into the Regional projection.

## Caldwell Enrollment History and Projection

| Roseland | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Year | K | | 1 | | 2 | | 3 | | 4 | | 5 | | 6 | Subtotal K-6 | Grand Total |
| 2020-21 | 51 | | 62 | | 63 | | 67 | | 73 | | 68 | | 58 | 442 | 442 |
| | | 1.196 | | 0.968 | | 1.016 | | 0.970 | | 1.055 | | 0.971 | | | |
| 2021-22 | 48 | | 61 | | 60 | | 64 | | 65 | | 77 | | 66 | 441 | 441 |
| | | 1.021 | | 0.984 | | 1.050 | | 1.063 | | 0.954 | | 1.052 | | | |
| 2022-23 | 57 | | 49 | | 60 | | 63 | | 68 | | 62 | | 81 | 440 | 440 |
| | | 0.947 | | 1.020 | | 1.017 | | 1.000 | | 1.059 | | 1.000 | | | |
| 2023-24 | 59 | | 54 | | 50 | | 61 | | 63 | | 72 | | 62 | 421 | 421 |
| | | 1.102 | | 1.056 | | 1.060 | | 0.984 | | 1.048 | | 1.014 | | | |
| 2024-25 | 58 | | 65 | | 57 | | 53 | | 60 | | 66 | | 73 | 432 | 432 |
| | | 1.000 | | 0.985 | | 0.982 | | 1.038 | | 0.967 | | 1.000 | | | |
| 2025-26 | 53 | | 58 | | 64 | | 56 | | 55 | | 58 | | 66 | 410 | 410 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | 1.053 | | 1.002 | | 1.025 | | 1.011 | | 1.016 | | 1.007 | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2026-27 | 54 | | 56 | | 58 | | 66 | | 57 | | 56 | | 58 | 405 | 405 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2027-28 | 55 | | 57 | | 56 | | 60 | | 66 | | 58 | | 56 | 408 | 408 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2028-29 | 56 | | 58 | | 57 | | 57 | | 60 | | 67 | | 58 | 414 | 414 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2029-30 | 56 | | 59 | | 58 | | 59 | | 58 | | 61 | | 68 | 419 | 419 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2029-31 | 55 | | 59 | | 59 | | 59 | | 59 | | 59 | | 62 | 413 | 413 |

The Roseland School District enrollment declined by 32 students between 2020-21 and 2025-26. The enrollment is projected to remain stable over the next five years with a marginal increase of three students by 2030-31.

## Roseland Enrollment History and Projection

# Impact of Projected Housing

- The projected impact of new and transitioning housing in the regional was assessed using data from planning documents.
  - In North  Caldwell the proposed housing on the recently sold golf course will be age restricted.  This will not impact enrollment.
  - In Fairfield there is one development approved but not constructed at 404 Fairfield Road which will consist of 45 units with 28  1-bedroom units, 5 2-bedroom units and 1 three-bedroom units.  This will not have a significant impact on the enrollment in Fairfield or the Regional.
  - While there is significant construction in Roseland based on those units already completed the total impact to date has been 1 student to the elementary school and 2 to the Regional. It is our belief that given the buildout times, these units are also not likely to have much of an impact on school enrollment over the projection period.

# Conclusion

- This projection shows that there will be a decline of forty-five students’ the West Essex Regional High School District.
  - The enrollment over the past six years in the elementary schools has netted an increase of 26 students.
  - The five-year projection shows a decline of thirty-five students.
- The demographic analysis indicates a stability in the community populations of the sending districts, which should contribute to the ongoing stability in the enrollment.
  - In addition, the limited amount of vacant land for new housing construction indicates that new construction in the communities will not materially impact enrollment in the Regional.