



Superintendent's Message

As we settle into a new school year, I'm pleased to welcome you to the first edition of our new ESCNJ Express newsletter. We're excited to introduce this new format to share more of what is happening across ESCNJ – from student and staff accomplishments to program updates and important news.

This is also a particularly special year for ESCNJ as we celebrate our 50th Anniversary. For five decades, ESCNJ has evolved to meet the changing needs of our communities while remaining focused on creating opportunities for students and providing valuable services and cost-savings to our members.



As we celebrate this milestone, we're also looking ahead and investing in ESCNJ's future. Some of the exciting work underway this year includes:

- Our Adult Community Services Program moved into its own dedicated space on Park Avenue, a long-term goal that provides the adults we serve with a dedicated space that better meets their needs.
- The central office spaces are under renovation to make room for all the ESCNJ Business Office Support Staff and Administration. Once the work is complete, it will allow valuable classroom space to be returned to the students for instructional programming.
- Construction will begin this spring at our Piscataway campus on a multiphase transformation of our playground and outdoor learning areas, expanding the accessibility of our recreational spaces and outdoor classrooms.
- At the same time, we are making significant investments in our technology infrastructure to better support instruction, communication, and operations.

Together, let's make the 2026-27 school year the best yet and continue building on our proud legacy of creating new opportunities for our students for many years to come.

**Best regards,
Nadia Romano
Superintendent of Schools**



ESCNJ Administrative Team

Mark Your Calendar

10/16 ESCNJ Board Meeting

10/22 Half Day Staff Development
(Early dismissal all schools)

11/5-6 NJEA Convention (*Schools closed*)

11/6 Professional Development
for ACS Only (*Program closed*)

11/18-19 Parent/Teacher
Conferences (*Early dismissal all schools*)

11/20 ESCNJ Board Meeting

11/25 Early dismissal all schools

11/26-27 Thanksgiving (*All schools/ACS Program closed*)

12/3 Half Day Staff Development
(*Early dismissal all schools*)

12/18 ESCNJ Board Meeting

12/23 Early dismissal all schools

12/24-1/1 Winter Recess

Visit www.escnj.us for more information!

Fifty Years of ESCNJ...and Counting

It's December 1977: Jimmy Carter is President, *Star Wars* is a cultural phenomenon, and the New Jersey State Board of Education is voting to establish the Middlesex County Educational Services Commission, the precursor of the Educational Services Commission of New Jersey (ESCNJ).

We've come a long way in 50 years.

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1977

NJ Board of Education votes to establish Middlesex County Educational Services Commission (MCESC).



1978

MCESC begins operations

1982

MCESC opens Central Valley School.



1984

MCESC opens Regional Day School at Piscataway.

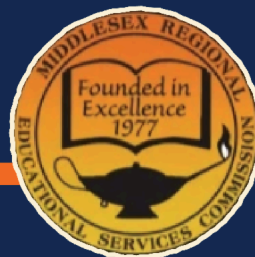


1988

Board of Directors announces Plan for the Future.

2005

MCESC has shared services relationships with 75 school districts in 11 counties, name changed to Middlesex Regional Educational Services Commission.



2010



Board of Directors
revises mission
statement.

2016



MRESC has presence in
all 21 New Jersey counties,
name changed to Educational
Services Commission of New Jersey.



2019

ESC NJ opens state-of-
the-art Professional
Conference Center
in Piscataway.

2023



Expanded Aquatics and
Fitness Center opens in Sayreville.

2026-27



Today, ESCNJ operates six schools
for students with autism, coordinates
transportation for 6,000 students, and
manages the state's largest co-op
system with over 1,500 members.

ESC NJ Broadband Initiative Featured as United Nations Case Study

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) is featuring the Educational Services Commission of New Jersey (ESC NJ) broadband cooperative purchasing initiative as a case study for education systems worldwide.

According to the UNESCO case study, ESCNJ's Digital Readiness for Learning and Assessment Project (DRLAP) broadband purchasing initiative has increased broadband speeds sixfold while saving members between 70-243%. Purchasing cooperatives allow multiple organizations to pool their buying power to secure lower prices and better contract terms.

[Read More](#)

ESCNJ Welcomes Four to Administration

Nandieta Itwaru, Ed.D.
Director, Nonpublic Services

"Advocating for students with special needs and making sure they receive the services they need has been the throughline of my entire career, and this role lets me continue that work on a broader scale."

[Read More](#)

Bridget O'Neill-Rosado
Principal, NuView Academy

"I am really excited to become a part of ESCNJ and to be joining a team of individuals who have chosen to dedicate their careers and talents to working with students with disabilities."

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Paul Savioa
District Supervisor, School Programs and Services

"One quality I bring to this role is a strong focus on creating meaningful learning opportunities for both teachers and students."

[Read More](#)

Alex Van Driesen
Supervisor, Nonpublic Services

"It's important for me to be on the ground floor, working directly with staff and students as much as possible to make ESCNJ a great place to work and a great place to learn. Together, these help ensure the best possible outcomes for our students."

[Read More](#)



A Peak Inside Park Avenue



ESCNJ's Adult Community Services program proudly moved to a dedicated space on Park Avenue and welcomed adults and their families for the grand opening in August. Take a peak!



Dr. David A. Roman, President
 Dr. Richard Labbe, Vice President

Middlesex County Board Members

Carteret, Ms. Rosa Diaz
 Cranbury, Dr. Jennifer Diszler
 Dunellen, TBD
 East Brunswick, Dr. Evelyn Mamman
 Edison, Dr. Edward Aldarelli
 Highland Park, Dr. Kristina Susca
 Jamesburg, Dr. Gina Villani
 Metuchen, Dr. Vincent Caputo
 Middlesex, Dr. Roberta Freeman
 Middlesex County Magnet Schools,
 Mr. Jorge Diaz
 Milltown, Dr. Stephen Wisniewski
 Monroe, Dr. Adam Layman

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 Perth Amboy, Dr. David A. Roman
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 South River, Dr. Sylvia Zircher
 Spotswood, Mr. Jeffery Bicsko
 Woodbridge, Dr. Joseph Massimino
 Board Attorney, Busch Law Group

Additional County Representatives

UNION: Plainfield Public Schools, Dr. Elizabeth Filippatos
 SOMERSET: Somerset Hills Regional, Dr. Brian Brotschul
 HUNTERDON: Lebanon Township Schools, Dr. Harold Abraham



The Educational Services Commission of New Jersey

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