# 2026 Statewide Strategic Plan for SDA Districts

December 3, 2025

# 2026 Statewide Strategic Plan for SDA Districts

### Section 1 SDA Capital Project Portfolio 2022 Capital Plan

#### 2022 Capital Plan – Projects

County	District	Grades Served	Project / Project Type	School Opening	New Seats	Total Project Costs (Millions)
Essex	Newark	PK - 8	Mandela School Acquisition	Sep-2023	376	\$20.5
Middlesex	New Brunswick	6 - 8, 9 - 12	MS / P-Tech Annex Acquisition	Sep-2024	859	\$42.0
Bergen	Garfield	K - 5	New School (#5 Replacement)	Sep-2027	852	\$87.6
Atlantic	Pleasantville	PK - 5	New Decatur Ave School	Sep-2028	658	\$65.8
Cumberland	Bridgeton	9 - 12	HS Addition/Renovation	Sep-2028	384	\$85.7
Hudson	West New York	6 - 8	New School (Warminster Site)	Sep-2028	876	\$121.8
Mercer	Trenton	K - 6	New School (Dunn School Site)	Sep-2028	837	\$89.4
Union	Elizabeth	PK - 8	New School (Battin Replacement)	Sep-2028	1,068	\$101.5
Camden	Camden	9 - 12	New Eastside HS (Replacement)	Sep-2029	941	\$115.1
Essex	Newark	9 - 12	New University HS (Replacement)	Sep-2029	1,438	\$153.0
Passaic	Paterson	9 - 12	New STEAM & STARS High School	Sep-2029	1,412	\$160.3
Hudson	Jersey City	PK - K	School #24 Addition	Sep-2030	288	\$37.5
Passaic	Passaic City	9 - 12	New School (HS #12 Replacement)	Sep-2031	2,823	\$328.1
Bergen	Garfield	K - 5	New School (Replacement)	TBD	706	TBD
Cumberland	Bridgeton	6 - 8	Addition/Renovation	TBD	328	TBD
Cumberland	Bridgeton	6 - 8	Addition/Renovation	TBD	333	TBD
Middlesex	New Brunswick	6 - 8	Addition/Renovation	TBD	240	TBD
Salem	Salem City	PK - 8	New School (Replacement)	TBD	961	TBD
18 Projects					15,380	\$1,408.3

#### 2022 Capital Plan – Plan Adjustments

The updated 2022 Capital Plan includes two modifications based upon the 2024 Educational Facilities Needs Assessment and Other Factors

2024 Educational Facilities Needs Assessment Driven Adjustments

- 1. Perth Amboy New School for grade K to 5
  - Project has been removed from the plan. Based upon the 2024 needs assessment there is no longer an educational need for the project and there are no major educational projects identified in the District's Long Range Facilities Plan.

#### Other Factors

- 1. Union City School Acquisition for grades 7 to 9
  - Project has been removed from the plan due to the inability for the District and the seller of the proposed facility to come to terms on mutually agreeable sales terms.

Given current market condition constraints we are pausing on replacing these projects in the current capital plan until such time as we are able to ensure the next logical project for advancement can be fully funded. Based upon the existing needs assessment that project would be the construction of a New High School in Elizabeth.

### 2026 Statewide Strategic Plan for SDA Districts

Section 2 Capital Project Portfolio Delivery Methods and Approach

#### **Delivery Methods and Approach**

- Working Groups
  - NJSDA, District and NJDOE together perform a holistic review of District facilities and collaborate to validate project need and most effective, efficient solution to address that need
- Early Site Preparation (ESP)
   NJSDA investigates and addresses site environmental conditions prior to advancing building construction
- Design Studio
   NJSDA staff develops bridging documents to ensure uniformity and consistency while providing for District-specific needs
- Standardized Design Components and Material & Systems Standards
   Ensure that all projects conform to requirements for educational spaces, quality and consistency
- Design-Build Project Delivery
   Streamlined project coordination and delivery
- Constructability Review for Traditional Project Delivery Reduces occurrence of unforeseen issues, delays and cost impact

#### **Results**

- Advancement of Appropriate Projects and Scope to Address Educational Needs
- Projects Delivered On Budget
- Minimization of Surprise
- Reduction of Change Orders
- Job Creation

#### **Results** (continued)

#### **Program Since Inception**

#### New Seats

Over 35,000 New Seats Delivered

Over 14,000 New Seats to be Delivered

Over 49,000 Total New Seats

Work Addressing Concerning Conditions in Existing Facilities

Approximately 1.3 Million Square Feet Addressed

# 2026 Statewide Strategic Plan for SDA Districts

Section 3
Remaining SDA District Needs
&
Statewide Strategic Plan

## The formulation of a statewide strategic plan is rooted in legislation

P.L.2007, c.137 (C.52:18A-235 et al. "(SDA) shall establish a Statewide strategic plan to be used in the sequencing of SDA district school facilities projects based upon the projects' educational priority rankings and issues which impact the development authority's ability to complete the projects including, but not limited to, the construction schedule and other appropriate factors."

#### **Statutory Principles:**

- Statewide educational priority ranking
- Statewide strategic plan
- Sequencing of projects
- Revision of plan at least once every five years

The Statewide Strategic Plan is forward looking and developed with the understanding that the projects included in the SDA's current Capital Plan will be completed. Needs that are identified in the EFNA that will be address by current Capital Plan projects are not included in the remaining needs section or sequencing of future project priorities.

#### **Remaining Priority Needs**

The NJDOE 2024 Educational Facilities Needs Assessment (2024 EFNA) Provides the Foundation for Development of the NJSDA Strategic Plan for Advancement of Projects in SDA-Districts

NJDOE's 2024 EFNA highlights the most severe facilities deficiencies impacting program delivery within each district:

- Capacity Needs (Overcrowding)
  - Address overcrowding at all Grade Levels, including Early Childhood
- Aging Infrastructure
  - Address concerning conditions at existing facilities

NJDOE's 2024 EFNA provides the educational prioritization of school facilities projects and recognizes that recommendations of educational prioritization will be jointly considered with the NJSDA's analysis of non-educational issues influencing project advancement, such as logistical and construction considerations, for the final prioritization and recommendations

#### Approach

Development of a Strategic Plan to be used in the sequencing of projects in SDA-Districts based upon:

- Educational Priorities
  - Address Overcrowding
  - Building Age and Condition
- Logistical Factors
  - Prioritization of Project Review and Validation based upon a combination
    - Overall severity of the educational priority needs
    - Effectiveness of project to address multiple needs (Capacity & Aged Infrastructure)
    - Replacement and/or Renovation of the over 100 extremely aged buildings SDA-district wide (100+ year old buildings)
  - Delivery Capacity
    - SDA Staff
    - Consultant Community
    - Construction Community

#### 2024 EFNA

Establishes Universe of Needs for SDA-District Advancement

#### NJSDA Logistical Factors

- Identify a Sequence for Project Advancement if additional funding becomes available
  - ❖ Priority 1 projects that will address the most serious capacity deficiencies
  - Priority 2 projects that will address both capacity and facilities conditions deficiencies (including FES compliance deficiencies)
  - Priority 3 projects that will address the most serious facilities conditions deficiencies (building in excess of 100 years old)
  - Priority 4 projects that will address moderate capacity deficiencies (including FES compliance deficiencies)
  - ❖ Priority 5 projects that will address facilities conditions deficiencies (building less than 100 years old)
  - ❖ Priority 6 projects that will address minor capacity deficiencies

## Capacity Needs in SDA-Districts

#### 2024 EFNA

#### Remaining Capacity Needed in SDA-Districts

Districts Requiring New Construction to Address Capacity Deficiencies

Rank	County	District	Capacity Needs	Percentage Overcrowding	Grade Levels Impacted	Comments	
1	Union	Elizabeth	5,546	25.2%	PK - 12	Extensive New School Construction Needed to Address Capacity Deficiency	
2	Union	Plainfield	675	8.1%	PK - 5	New School Construction Needed to Address Capacity Deficiency	
3	Cam den	Gloucester City	109	4.8%	6 - 12	Middle School Expansion Required to Address Capacity Deficiency High School Capacity Deficiency Accommodated Within Maximum Capacity	
4	Bergen	Garfield	237	4.8%	9 - 12	High School Expansion Required to Address Capacity Deficiency	
5	Essex	Irvington	331	4.4%	9 - 12	High School Expansion Required to Address Capacity Deficiency	
6	Hudson	Union City	387	3.4%	PK - 8	PK - 5 School Expansion Required to Address FES Compliance Deficiency	
7	Hudson	Hoboken	54	1.8%	6 - 8	Middle School Expansion Required to Address Capacity Deficiency	
8	Essex	City of Orange	215	4.0%	6 - 12	Middle School Expansion Required to Address Capacity Deficiency High School Capacity Deficiency Accommodated Within Maximum Capacity	
8 Dist	8 Districts			11.7%			

Districts With Sufficient Capacity Utilizing Maximum Building Capacity

Rank	County	District	Capacity Needs	Percentage Overcrowding	Grade Levels Impacted	Comments
1	Essex	Newark	2,247	6.1%	PK - 12	Capacity Deficiency Accommodated Within Maximum Capacity
2	Middlesex	New Brunswick	249	2.8%	9 - 12	Capacity Deficiency Accommodated Within Maximum Capacity
3	Cumberland	Vineland	114	1.2%	PK - 5, 9 - 12	Capacity Deficiency Accommodated Within Maximum Capacity
4	Burlington	Burlington City	20	1.0%	PK - 5	Capacity Deficiency Accommodated Within Maximum Capacity
5	Passaic	Paterson	207	0.9%	PK - 5	Capacity Deficiency Accommodated Within Maximum Capacity
6	Atlantic	Pleasantville	31	0.7%	9 - 12	Capacity Deficiency Accommodated Within Maximum Capacity
7	Essex	East Orange	14	0.1%	9 - 12	Capacity Deficiency Accommodated Within Maximum Capacity
8	Cumberland	Millville	6	0.1%	6 - 8	Capacity Deficiency Accommodated Within Maximum Capacity
8 Dist	ricts		2,888	2.9%		
16 Dis	stricts		10,442	6.3%		

NOTE: The 2024 EFNA identified capacity needs in Bridgeton and New Brunswick that require new construction. Those districts are not included above because those needs are planned to be addressed as part of the NJSDA's current Capital Plan.

### Building Age & Condition Needs in SDA-Districts

#### 2024 EFNA

Aging Infrastructure – Needs Based Upon Building Age & Condition

County	District	EFNA Identified Needs (Based Upon Building Age & Condition)	County	District	EFNA Identified Needs (Based Upon Building Age & Condition)
Monmouth	Asbury Park	Asbury Park High School (reno/add) Asbury Park Middle School (reno)	Essex	Irvington	Any Pre-1920 School Building
Cumberland	Bridgeton	Broad Street School (reno)	Hudson	Jersey City	Any Pre-1950 School Building
Camden	Camden City	Any Pre-1925 School Building	Essex	Newark	Any Pre-1930 School Building
Essex	East Orange	Any Pre-1920 School Building	Passaic	Passaic City	Any Pre-1950 School Building
Bergen	Garfield	Any Pre-1930 School Building	Passaic	Paterson	Any Pre-1920 School Building
Hudson	Harrison	Washington Middle School	Union	Plainfield	Plainfield Academy for the Arts and Advanced Studies (replacement)
riudson	riamson	Lincoln Elementary School Hamilton Intermediate School	Mercer	Trenton	New South Ward School Pre-1940 Building
Hudson	Hoboken	Connors Elementary School Joseph Brandt School	Hudson	West New York	Any Pre-1920 Pre-K-5 School Building

Based upon the 2024 EFNA there are over 100 facilities identified above that have needs based upon building age and condition.

Camden – 2 | East Orange – 6 | Garfield – 5 | Irvington – 3 | Jersey City – 20 Newark – 31 | Passaic City – 7 | Paterson – 18 | Trenton – 10 | West New York – 3

# Project Sequencing for Validation and Advancement

Sequencing – Based Upon NJDOE EFNA Inter-District Prioritization and SDA Priority Category

County	District	Grades Served	Project Type	Need Addressed	Percentage Overcrowding	DOE Tier	SDA Priority
Union	Elizabeth	9 - 12	New High School	Severe Overcrowding, FES Compliance	25.2%	1	1
Union	Elizabeth	PK - 8	New PK - 8 School	Severe Overcrowding, FES Compliance	25.2%	1	1
Union	Elizabeth	PK - 8	New PK - 8 School	Severe Overcrowding, FES Compliance	25.2%	1	1
Union	Plainfield	PK - 5	New Elementary School (Cook School Replacement)	Moderate Overcrowding Building Age and Condition	8.1%	2A	2
Essex	Irvington	9 - 12	High School (renovation/addition)	Moderate Overcrowding, FES Compliance Building Age and Condition	4.4%	2A	2
Essex	Newark	PK - 8	Replacement School (Pre-1930)	Minor Overcrowding Building Age and Condition	6.1%	2B	2
Essex	City of Orange	9 -12	New Performing Arts HS or STEM Academy	Moderate Overcrowding Building Age and Condition Deficiencies	4.0%	2B	2
Passaic	Paterson	6 - 8	Replacement School Pre-K - 8 or 6 to 8 (Pre-1920)	Minor Overcrowding Building Age and Condition	0.9%	2B	2
Essex	East Orange	9 - 12	East Orange Campus High and/or STEM Academy (renovation/addition)	Minor Overcrowding Building Age and Condition	0.1%	2B	2
Hudson	West New York	9 - 12	Memorial High School (renovation)	FES Compliance Building Age & Condition		2B	2
Essex	Newark	9 - 12	Replacement School (Pre-1930)	Minor Overcrowding Building Age, Condition and/or FES Compliance	6.1%	3	2
Essex	City of Orange	PK - 7	Forest Street School or other PK - 7 (Pre-1930) (renovation/addition)	Minor Overcrowding Building Age, Condition and/or FES Compliance	4.0%	3	2
Hudson	Hoboken	6 - 8	Middle School (LRFP calls for Replacement HS)	Moderate Overcrowding Buidling Age and Condition Deficiencies	1.8%	3	2
Passaic	Paterson	PK - 5	Replacement School Pre-K - 5 (Pre-1920)	Minor Overcrowding Building Age, Condition and/or FES Compliance	0.9%	3	2

Sequencing – Based Upon NJDOE EFNA Inter-District Prioritization and SDA Priority Category (Continued)

County	District	Grades Served	Project Type	Need Addressed	Percentage Overcrowding	DOE Tier	SDA Priority
Cumberland	Bridgeton	6 - 8	Broad Street School (1900) (renovation)	Building Age and Condition Deficiencies			3
Hudson	Harrison	6 - 8	Washington Middle School (1900) (renovation/addition)	Building Age and Condition Deficiencies			3
Hudson	Hoboken	K - 5	Connors Elementary School (1908) (renovation)	Building Age and Condition Deficiencies			3
Essex	East Orange	PK - 8	Replacement School (Pre-1920)	Building Age and Condition Deficiencies			3
Essex	Irvington	PK - 8	Replacement School (Pre-1920)	Building Age and Condition Deficiencies			3
Hudson	West New York	PK - 5	Elementary School (Pre-1920) (renovation)	Building Age and Condition Deficiencies			3
Hudson	Harrison	4 - 5	Hamilton Intermediate School (1920) (renovation/addition)	Building Age and Condition Deficiencies			3
Hudson	Hoboken	K - 5	Brandt Elementary School (1921) (renovation)	Building Age and Condition Deficiencies			3
Hudson	Harrison	2 - 3	Lincoln Elementary School (1924) (renovation)	Building Age and Condition Deficiencies			3
Camden	Camden City	PK - 8	Replacement School (Pre-1925)	Building Age and Condition Deficiencies			3
Monmouth	Asbury Park	9 - 12	High School (1927) (renovation/addition)	Building Age and Condition Deficiencies			3
Bergen	Garfield	9 - 12	High School (renovation/addition)	Moderate Overcrowding	4.8%	2A	4
Hudson	Union City	PK - 5	New Elementary School	Minor Overcrowding, FES Compliance	3.4%	2A	4
Camden	Gloucester City	4 - 5	New Upper Elementary School (Former Mary Ethel Costello Site)	Moderate Overcrowding	4.8%	2B	4

Sequencing – Based Upon NJDOE EFNA Inter-District Prioritization and SDA Priority Category (Continued)

County	District	Grades Served	Project Type	Need Addressed	Percentage Overcrowding	DOE Tier	SDA Priority
Mercer	Trenton	K - 6	New South Ward Replacement School (Pre-1940)	Building Age and Condition Deficiencies			5
Hudson	Jersey City	PK - 12	Replacement School (Pre-1950)	Building Age and Condition Deficiencies			5
Passaic	Passaic City	PK - 8	Replacement School (Pre-1950)	Building Age and Condition Deficiencies			5
Middlesex	New Brunswick	PK - 5	Woodrow Wilson School (1954) (renovation/addition)	Building Age and Condition Deficiencies			5
Union	Plainfield	7 - 12	Academy for the Arts & Advanced Studies (1960) (Replacement)	Building Age and Condition Deficiencies			5
Atlantic	Pleasantville	K - 5	Washington Avenue School (1966) (renovation)	Building Age and Condition Deficiencies			5
Atlantic	Pleasantville	PK - 5	South Main Elementary School (1970) (renovation)	Building Age and Condition Deficiencies			5
Monmouth	Asbury Park	6 - 8	Middle School (1971) (renovation)	Building Age and Condition Deficiencies			5
Union	Plainfield	6 - 8	New Middle School	FES Compliance	8.1%	2B	6
Hudson	Union City	9 - 12	High School Addition	FES Compliance	3.4%	2B	6
Middlesex	New Brunswick	9-12	High School (renovation/addition)	Minor Overcrowding	2.8%	2B	6
Cumberland	Vineland	PK - 5	Elementary School (renovation/addition)	Minor Overcrowding	1.2%	2B	6
Mercer	Trenton	9 -12	9th Grade Academy (renovation/addition)	FES Compliance		2B	6
Camden	Gloucester City	9 - 12	High School (renovation)	Minor Overcrowding	4.8%	3	6
Hudson	Union City	6 - 8	Middle School Addition	Minor Overcrowding	3.4%	3	6
Cumberland	Vineland	9 - 12	Senior High School (renovation/addition)	Minor Overcrowding	1.2%	3	6
Atlantic	Pleasantville	9 - 12	High School (renovation)	Minor Overcrowding	0.7%	3	6

NOTE: Burlington City, Keansburg, Long Branch, Millville, Neptune, Pemberton, Perth Amboy, Phillipsburg and Salem City are not included as they do not have any proposed major educational projects included in their current approved Long Range Facility Plans.