

New Jersey School Boards Association

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Voters Approve One of Five School Construction Proposals

TRENTON, March 11, 2009—Tuesday's school-construction vote appeared to reflect concerns over the economy, as voters passed only one of the five referendum questions on the ballot, the New Jersey School Boards Association reported today.

Voters in Hopewell Township, Cumberland County, approved a \$2.8 million school renovation project. Voters rejected a total of \$138.6 million in proposed school construction in four other communities: Edgewater in Bergen County; Winslow Township in Camden County; Manchester Township in Ocean County; and the Woodstown-Pilesgrove Regional School District in Salem County.

School boards may schedule bond referendums on five specific dates a year. The next date that school board may place a school-construction question on the ballot is the Annual School Election, on April 21. During the Annual School Election, voters also act on proposed school district operating budgets and elect board of education members.

Results of Tuesday's school construction proposals are below.

New Jersey School Construction Referendum Results Tuesday, March 10, 2009

STATEWIDE

Total amount approved - \$2,821,375

Amount eligible for state reimbursement - \$1,442,572

BERGEN COUNTY

Edgewater - Rejected

Construct an early childhood learning center; install solar panels at the Eleanor Van Gelder School Total amount – \$30,478,400

Amount eligible for state reimbursement – \$1,371,110

CAMDEN COUNTY

Winslow Township - Rejected

Construct a new elementary school; additions and renovations to four elementary schools; renovations to two elementary schools, the middle school and high school

Total amount - \$69,995,816

Amount eligible for state reimbursement - \$23,797,613

CUMBERLAND COUNTY

Hopewell Township - Passed

Renovations to the Hopewell Crest Elementary School, including installation of HVAC and solar Total amount – \$2,821,375

Amount eligible for state reimbursement - \$1,442,572

OCEAN COUNTY

Manchester Township - Both Rejected

Proposal 1: Renovations to the middle school and high school, three elementary schools, and the board office building; acquire school buses; install solar panels at high school

Total amount - \$9,997,387

Amount eligible for state reimbursement – \$2,620,313

Proposal 2: Install synthetic turf at high school athletic complex Total amount – \$1,147,215 (Not eligible for state reimbursement)

SALEM COUNTY

Woodstown-Pilesgrove Regional - Rejected

Construct a new middle school Total amount – \$26,986,344 Amount eligible for state reimbursement – \$2,747,449 The New Jersey School Boards Association, a federation of district boards of education, advocates the interests of school districts, trains local school board members, and provides resources for the advancement of public education.