

New Jersey School Boards Association

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Voters Approve \$25 million in School Construction

TRENTON, Dec. 14, 2011—Voters in two of the six New Jersey school districts with school-construction proposals on the ballot approved \$25.8 million in school construction on Tuesday, according to the New Jersey School Boards Association.

Nearly \$139.77 million in school construction was proposed. Of the amount approved, \$8.1 million will qualify for state funds. Not all projects would have received state aid, as three of the proposals specifically noted that the school board did not seek state aid due to uncertainty of state funding or because the state was not approving aid for capital projects.

Year-end results With Tuesday's vote totals included, 12 of the 24 bond referendums in 2011 were approved – the fewest number of bond proposals and fewest approvals since NJSBA began tracking referendums 13 years ago.

Voters in 2011 approved nearly \$119.65 million of the \$343.51 million that was placed on the ballot – also the smallest dollar amounts proposed and dollars approved in a given year since NJSBA started tracking bond referendums.

NJSBA has posted online a chart providing a year-by-year overview of school construction referendums from 2001 to 2011.

School boards may hold special elections on five specific dates a year. The next date on which a school board may schedule a bond referendum question is Jan. 24.

Results of the Dec. 13 school construction proposals are below.

New Jersey School Construction Referendum Results

Tuesday, December 13, 2011

STATEWIDE

Total amount requested - \$25,889,900 (\$139,769,555 proposed)

Amount eligible for state reimbursement – \$8,130,091

ATLANTIC COUNTY

Galloway Township - Rejected

Roof projects and fire alarm replacement at three schools; drainage and parking lot repairs at one school.

Total amount - \$6,982,500

Greater Egg Harbor Regional - Proposal 1 Approved; Proposal 2 Rejected

Proposal 1: Roof, fire alarm and heating/ventilation system replacement at one school, and fire alarm replacement at another school.

Total amount - \$14,222,000

Amount eligible for state reimbursement – \$8,130,091

Proposal 2 (contingent upon approval of Proposal 1): Replace heating/ventilation system in one school.

Total amount - \$12,250,000

Amount eligible for state reimbursement - \$7,002,786

BERGEN COUNTY

Elmwood Park - Rejected

Roof, window, lighting and other renovations to three elementary schools; additions/renovations to the high/middle school to include gym renovations, athletic fields, parking and administrative facilities.

Total amount - \$19,000,000

Lyndhurst - Rejected

Renovations to six schools; additions to four schools.

Total amount - \$27,147,155

Amount eligible for state reimbursement – \$1,423,936

MIDDLESEX COUNTY

Piscataway - Rejected

Roof projects and solar panel installation to 12 school buildings.

Total amount - \$48,500,000

MORRIS COUNTY

Randolph Township - Approved

Renovations to several schools including heating/air conditioning systems, window replacement, auditorium and locker rooms; and install turf fields and bleachers.

Total amount - \$11,667,900

The New Jersey School Boards Association is a federation of 587 local boards of education and includes 62 charter school associate members. NJSBA advocates the interests of school districts, trains local school board members, and provides resources for the advancement of public education.

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