

New Jersey School Boards Association

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Voters Approve \$20 million in School Construction

TRENTON, September 29, 2010—Voters in three of five New Jersey school districts with referendums on Tuesday approved \$20 million in school construction, the New Jersey School Boards Association reported today.

A total of \$145.5 million was requested among the five school districts. Of the amount approved, \$7.8 million qualifies for state funds, either through one-time school-construction grants or annual "debt service aid" payments to school districts.

In addition, the four municipalities comprising Pascack Valley Regional acted on a proposal Tuesday to change the apportionment of each municipality's share of the district's property tax levy. The question – which voters rejected – asked to change the formula from one based on the equalized property value of each municipality to one based on the number of students that each community sends to the regional high school. The four municipalities in Pascack Valley Regional are Hillsdale, Montvale, River Vale and Woodcliff Lake.

The next date on which a school board may schedule a bond referendum question is Dec. 14.

Results of Tuesday's school construction proposals are below.

New Jersey School Construction Referendum Results Tuesday, Sept. 28, 2010

STATEWIDE

Total amount approved – \$20,077,588 (\$145,518,214 proposed)

Amount eligible for state reimbursement – \$7,805,015 (may include up-front school-construction grants or annual payments of debt service aid)

BERGEN COUNTY

Fort Lee - Rejected

Renovations to six schools (roofs, windows, classrooms, HVAC, athletic facilities, electrical), and the construction of a new school.

Total amount - \$99,970,000

Amount eligible for state reimbursement - \$18,853,881

GLOUCESTER COUNTY

East Greenwich Township - Rejected

Addition and renovations to two schools, and to acquire land beside a school.

Total amount - \$25,470,626

Amount eligible for state reimbursement - \$7,018,913

MONMOUTH COUNTY

Tinton Falls - Passed

Renovations to three schools and administration building (access road, roof, HVAC, electrical work).

Total amount - \$8,867,735

Amount eligible for state reimbursement – \$4,098,800

MORRIS COUNTY

Netcong - Passed

Renovations to the elementary school, including roof, HVAC, fire doors, boiler, lights, locker rooms, and other interior upgrades.

Total amount - \$3,544,002

Amount eligible for state reimbursement - \$1,516,840

PASSAIC COUNTY

Hawthorne Borough - Passed

Renovations to five schools, including technology upgrades and athletic facilities Total amount – \$7,665,851 Amount eligible for state reimbursement – \$2,189,375

The New Jersey School Boards Association is a federation of 588 local boards of education and includes 44 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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