



New Jersey School Boards Association

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Voters Approve \$215.4 million for School Projects

TRENTON, December 9, 2009—Voters in 11 of 15 New Jersey school districts approved more than \$215.4 million in school construction projects on Tuesday, the New Jersey School Boards Association reported today.

School boards may hold special elections on five specific dates a year, and Tuesday was the final day for a school board to schedule a referendum in 2009. This year, voters approved school-construction proposals in 48 of 66 communities, for a success rate of 72.7 percent, one of the highest approval rates recorded during the [past 11 years](#). The average success rate during the previous four years has hovered around 62 percent.

The 15 districts holding bond referendums on Tuesday proposed a total of \$237 million in school construction. Energy-saving initiatives continued to be popular, as seven of the 15 referendums asked voters to approve solar panels; six of the projects with solar energy components were approved.

Of the \$215.4 million that was approved in the 11 districts, nearly \$68 million will be covered by state funds, either through up-front grants, annual "debt service aid" payments, or rebates through the state's Clean Energy program.

The next date on which a school board may schedule a bond referendum question is Jan. 26.

Details of Tuesday's school construction proposals are below.

New Jersey School Construction Referendum Results Tuesday, Dec 8, 2009

STATEWIDE

Total amount of construction approved – \$215,466,793 (\$237,384,368 requested)

Amount eligible for state funding – \$68,030,641

(State funding may include up-front school-construction grants, annual payments of debt service aid, or Clean Energy rebates)

ATLANTIC COUNTY

Estell Manor – REJECTED

Renovations, including HVAC, electrical, and installing a geothermal system

Total amount – \$3,105,636

Amount eligible for state funding – \$1,367,192

BERGEN COUNTY

Edgewater – PASSED (both questions)

Proposal 1: Demolish the George Washington School and construct new elementary school

Total amount – \$28,250,000

Amount eligible for state funding – \$1,179,750

Proposal 2 (contingent upon the passage of Proposal 1)

Install solar panels at Eleanor Van Gelder School

Total amount – \$478,400

Amount eligible for state funding – \$191,360

Hasbrouck Heights – REJECTED

Relocation of main office and several classrooms for security reasons at two elementary schools; replacement of heating systems at two elementary schools, the middle school and high school

Total amount – \$4,728,712

Amount eligible for state funding – \$1,891,484

Ridgewood – PASSED

Renovate high school, including field improvements; additions and/or renovations to eight other schools, with projecting ranging from new roofs to installation of a new track

Total amount – \$48,265,314

Amount eligible for state funding – \$9,844,712

BURLINGTON COUNTY**Bordentown Regional – PASSED**

Renovations to the high school complex, including solar panels, reconstruction of athletic fields, lighting and other work

Total amount – \$8,499,975

Amount eligible for state funding – \$2,620,936

Mansfield Township – PASSED (both questions)

Proposal 1: Roof replacement at elementary school

Total amount – \$639,300

Amount eligible for state funding – \$255,720

Proposal 2 (Contingent upon passage of Proposal 1): Install solar panels at elementary school

Total amount – \$1,229,424

Amount eligible for state funding – \$ 491,770

Springfield Township – REJECTED

Renovations including installing solar panels at elementary school

Total amount – \$11,083,227

Amount eligible for state funding – \$3,776,565

CAMDEN COUNTY**Berlin Township – PASSED**

Roof replacement, renovations to HVAC at two schools; roof replacement at administration building

Total amount – \$6,580,995

Amount eligible for state funding – \$3,246,206

CAPE MAY COUNTY**Woodbine – PASSED**

Install solar panels at elementary school

Total amount – \$3,682,665

Amount eligible for state funding – \$2,145,745

CUMBERLAND COUNTY**Fairfield Township – PASSED**

Addition and renovations to elementary school

Total amount – \$3,984,772

Amount eligible for state funding – \$1,984,772

ESSEX COUNTY**Livingston Township – PASSED (both questions)**

Proposal 1: Renovations to six elementary schools and two middle schools

Total amount – \$55,996,572

Amount eligible for state funding – \$22,398,628

Proposal 2 (contingent upon passage of Proposal 1): Install solar panels and any necessary roof and electrical system renovations at six elementary schools, two middle schools and a high school

Total amount – \$8,687,905

Amount eligible for state funding – \$3,475,162

GLOUCESTER COUNTY**Delsea Regional – REJECTED**

Replace roof at middle school

Total amount – \$3,000,000

Amount eligible for state funding – \$1,631,719

SALEM COUNTY**Quinton Township – PASSED**

Improvements to elementary school, including installing solar panels

Total amount – \$4,839,850

Amount eligible for state funding – \$2,717,885

SOMERSET COUNTY**Montgomery Township – PASSED**

Renovations to three schools, addition and renovations to one school

Total amount – \$24,350,352

Amount eligible for state funding – \$9,485,489

UNION COUNTY

Cranford – PASSED

Replace roofs at all schools; replace HVAC systems in three schools and boilers at three other schools.

Total amount – \$19,981,269

Amount eligible for state funding – \$7,992,506

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.