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Christie Administration Announces Somers Point to Receive \$2.3 Million through Schools Development Authority's Regular Operating District Grant Program

Furthering the Governor's commitment to providing the state's children with safe, modern and efficient schools, the Christie Administration today announced that the New Jersey Schools Development Authority (SDA) has executed 20 state grants to the Somers Point School District through the SDA's Regular Operating District (ROD) grant program.

The details for the district grants are as follows:

Projects:

Dawes Avenue Elementary School: Replace existing outdated telephone system with new telephone/communications system including software that will interconnect all three schools in the district.

Jordan Road Elementary School: (1) Replacement of domestic water piping and drinking fountains (2) Replacement of exterior windows (3) Roof replacement (4) Replacement of existing T12 corridors, classrooms, offices, administrative areas and media center with new T3 light fixtures (5) Removal of hot and cold water galvanized steel piping and replace with copper piping between the mains and fixtures (6) Replacement of stage accordion door (7) Replacement of PA system (8) Replacement of fire alarm system (9) Replacement of emergency generator (10) Replacement of main distribution panel, feeders and branch circuits (11) Replacement of clock and speaker system (12) Upgrade existing telephone system with software that will interconnect all three schools in the district.

New York Avenue Elementary School: (1) Roof replacement (2) Replacement of coping (3) Replacement of existing concrete steps (4) Repair of exterior steel lintels (5) Replacement of exterior windows (6) Brick repointing and waterproofing (7) Upgrade existing telephone system with software that will interconnect all three schools in the district.

State share: \$2,304,365

Local share: \$3,403,850

Estimated total project cost: \$5,708,215

SDA Chief Executive Officer Marc Larkins, in cooperation with the Department of Education, announced the resumption of the grant program in May 2010. Since then, the SDA has executed 533 grants. The state-grant program funds at least 40 percent of eligible costs for projects in the RODs, addressing health and safety issues, student overcrowding and other critical needs.

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The Department of Education selects school projects to receive grant funding from the SDA. The State has provided nearly \$159 million in grants to local districts since the May 2010 announcement, leveraging projects estimated at a total of more than \$349 million. Funding for the program was made available through the sale of \$500 million in bonds by the New Jersey Economic Development Authority (EDA).