For More Information: Edye Maier (SDA) 609-292-6246 April 15, 2011

Christie Administration Announces Watchung Hills Regional to Receive \$64,868 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 a state grant to the Watchung Hills Regional School District through the SDA's Regular Operating District (ROD) grant program.

The details for the district grant are as follows:

Project:

Watchung Hills Regional High School: Replace 6 exhaust fans, 5 motors in HV units, and 94 steam traps on heating equipment.

State share: \$64,868 Local share: \$97,301 Estimated total project cost: \$162,169

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 467 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.

The Department of Education selects school projects to receive grant funding from the SDA. The State has provided nearly \$143 million in grants to local districts since the May 2010 announcement, leveraging projects estimated at a total of nearly \$315 million. Funding for the program was made available through the sale of \$500 million in bonds by the New Jersey Economic Development Authority (EDA).