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Christie Administration Announces Lawrence Township Public Schools (Mercer County) to Receive \$732,000 in Grant Funding from the New Jersey Schools Development Authority

Trenton, NJ - Furthering the Christie Administration’s commitment to support critical school improvement projects in New Jersey, the Schools Development Authority (SDA) today announced that two grants have recently been executed for Lawrence Township Public Schools (Mercer County) through the SDA’s Regular Operating District (ROD) grant program. Grant execution signifies completion of the application process and the start of funding being issued to school districts through the SDA’s ROD grant program.

In May 2013, Governor Christie announced the largest single grant offering in the program’s history, making approximately half a billion dollars in funding available for projects throughout the state’s 559 Regular Operating Districts and 21 County Vocational Technical School Districts across New Jersey. The Department of Education, who determines the selection of school projects to receive grant funds, has approved more than 1,600 ROD Grant projects in 335 school districts throughout the state for this allocation. Between state and local contributions, the total project costs of the eligible projects are estimated to exceed \$1.2 billion, representing significant benefit not only to the children served by the state’s public schools but also to the economy and construction industry as this important work advances.

The projects in Lawrence Township Public Schools represent \$208,000 in total estimated costs including state grants of \$83,200 which leverages the local contribution of \$124,800. The SDA has executed nearly \$10 million in grants to Lawrence Township Public Schools since program inception.

The grants will provide funds to restore the chimneys at Lawrence High School and Benjamin Franklin Elementary School.

Since the start of the Christie Administration, the SDA has executed 1,546 grants in 323 school districts. The state-grant program funds at least 40 percent of eligible costs for projects in the RODs, addressing health and safety issues and other critical needs.

The State of New Jersey has provided \$495.4 million (state share) in grants to local districts since January 2010, leveraging projects with total estimated costs of \$1.16 billion. The SDA’s current portfolio of active grant projects represents \$1.2 billion in total project costs.

	Total Project Cost Estimate	State Share	Local Share
Lawrence High School – Restoration of chimney	\$127,000	\$50,800	\$76,200
Benjamin Franklin Elementary School – Restoration of chimney	\$81,000	\$32,400	\$48,600
Lawrence Township Public Schools Total	\$208,000	\$83,200	\$124,800