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## **Christie Administration Announces Sparta Township Public Schools to Receive \$275,114 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 five grants have recently been executed for the Sparta Township Public Schools 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 project in Sparta Township Public Schools represents \$687,786 in total estimated costs including state grants of \$275,114 which leverages the local contribution of \$412,672. The SDA has executed \$1.3 million in grants to Sparta Township Public Schools since program inception.

The grants will fund security upgrades at Sparta Middle School, Sparta Alpine Elementary School, Helen Morgan Elementary School and Mohawk Avenue Elementary School. The final grant will fund electrical system upgrades at Sparta High School.

Since the start of the Christie Administration, the SDA has executed more than 2,010 grants in 372 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 more than \$655 million (state share) in grants to local districts since January 2010, leveraging projects with total estimated costs of more than \$1.5 billion. The SDA's current portfolio of active grant projects represents \$1.45 billion in total project costs.

School Name	Total Project Cost Estimate	State Share	Local Share
Sparta Middle School – Security upgrades	\$194,210	\$77,684	\$116,526
Sparta Alpine Elementary School – Security upgrades	\$142,040	\$56,816	\$85,224
Helen Morgan Elementary School – Security upgrades	\$134,985	\$53,994	\$80,991
Mohawk Avenue Elementary School – Security upgrades	\$103,551	\$41,420	\$62,131
Sparta High School – Electrical system upgrades	\$113,000	\$45,200	\$67,800
<b>Sparta Township Public Schools Total</b>	<b>\$687,786</b>	<b>\$275,114</b>	<b>\$412,672</b>

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