



# Investing In Our Children's Future

*Governor Christie Continues To Deliver On The Promise Of A High-Quality Education For Every New Jersey Student Regardless Of Zip Code*

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## THE HIGHEST AMOUNT OF EDUCATION FUNDING IN NEW JERSEY – EVER

New funding of approximately \$100 million in the 2014 budget brings total state aid to schools to nearly **\$9 billion**, marking the third year in a row of setting a historic high. During that time period, New Jersey has seen more than one billion dollars in education funding increases. No school district will receive less K-12 formula aid than the amount provided in fiscal year 2013. *This is the largest appropriation of State funding for education in New Jersey history.*

- In fiscal year 2013, Governor Christie increased his commitment to New Jersey schools and students by providing an additional \$200 million;
- In fiscal year 2012, Governor Christie increased education spending by \$855 million.

## EXPANDING ACCESS TO QUALITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

The Interdistrict School Choice Program was permanently signed into law by Governor Christie in September 2010 and implemented beginning with the 2011-12 school year. The program is designed to increase educational opportunities for students and their families by providing students with the option of attending a public school outside their district of residence without cost to their parents.

*Enrollment has tripled in the past three years to 3,357 students in 2012-13, and it is anticipated to grow to more than 4,682 in 2013-14.*

## INCREASED ACCESS TO HIGH-QUALITY CHARTER SCHOOLS

Governor Christie has improved the authorizing and application process for charter schools, encouraged more applicants, created greater flexibility with administration and finances, and allowed districts to convert failing public schools into charters.

*The Christie Administration has increased the overall number of charter schools in New Jersey to 87, opening 31 since the Governor took office. Due to a relentless focus on quality and holding all schools accountable for their results, the Administration has closed 10 low-performing charter schools; five in the last year.*

## MORE THAN \$2 BILLION IN SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

The New Jersey Schools Development Authority (SDA) current portfolio of active projects is valued at over \$2 billion – including the 2011 and 2012 Capital Project portfolios (more than \$1 billion), additional projects in construction (\$100 million), emergent projects (\$50 million) and Regular Operating District grants (\$577 million state share). In May 2013, Governor Christie announced that an additional half billion dollars would be made available for needed construction projects in Regular Operating Districts and County Vocational Schools across New Jersey.

## ***BY THE NUMBERS: EDUCATION FUNDING***

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<b>More than \$12,400,000,000</b>	Total State Education Funding In The 2014 Budget
<b>Nearly \$9,000,000,000</b>	State Aid To Schools In The 2014 Budget, An All Time High
<b>\$2,161,900,000</b>	State Funding For Higher Education In The 2014 Budget
<b>More than \$2,000,000,000</b>	Current Portfolio Of Capital Projects Funded Through The School Development Authority
<b>More than \$1,400,000,000</b>	Total State Funding For FY '14 For The State's 12 State Colleges And Research Institutions
<b>More than \$1,000,000,000</b>	Total Increase Of State Aid To Schools Over The Last Three Years
<b>More Than \$405,000,000</b>	Financial Assistance For Students Attending In-State Institutions
<b>\$352,400,000</b>	Total funding for Tuition Aid Grants for New Jersey's neediest college-bound students
<b>\$35,000,000</b>	Increase In State Funds For Continued Support Of The Governor's Historic Higher Education Reorganization
<b>\$1,000,000</b>	Continued Funding For The Governor's Urban Scholarship Program
<b>702</b>	Completed Projects Funded Through The School Development Authority As Of June 1, 2013
<b>190</b>	Newark Teachers Receiving Merit Pay Bonuses
<b>99</b>	Percentage Of New Jersey's Schools Open Within Three Weeks Of Superstorm Sandy
<b>31</b>	New Charter Schools Opened Since Governor Christie Took Office
<b>5</b>	Charter Schools Closed This Year Due To Low Performance
<b>All but 1</b>	Of The Last Five Schools Still Closed From Sandy Will Be Re-Opening This Week
<b>1</b>	New Camden Superintendent