

# Back To School With Bipartisanship

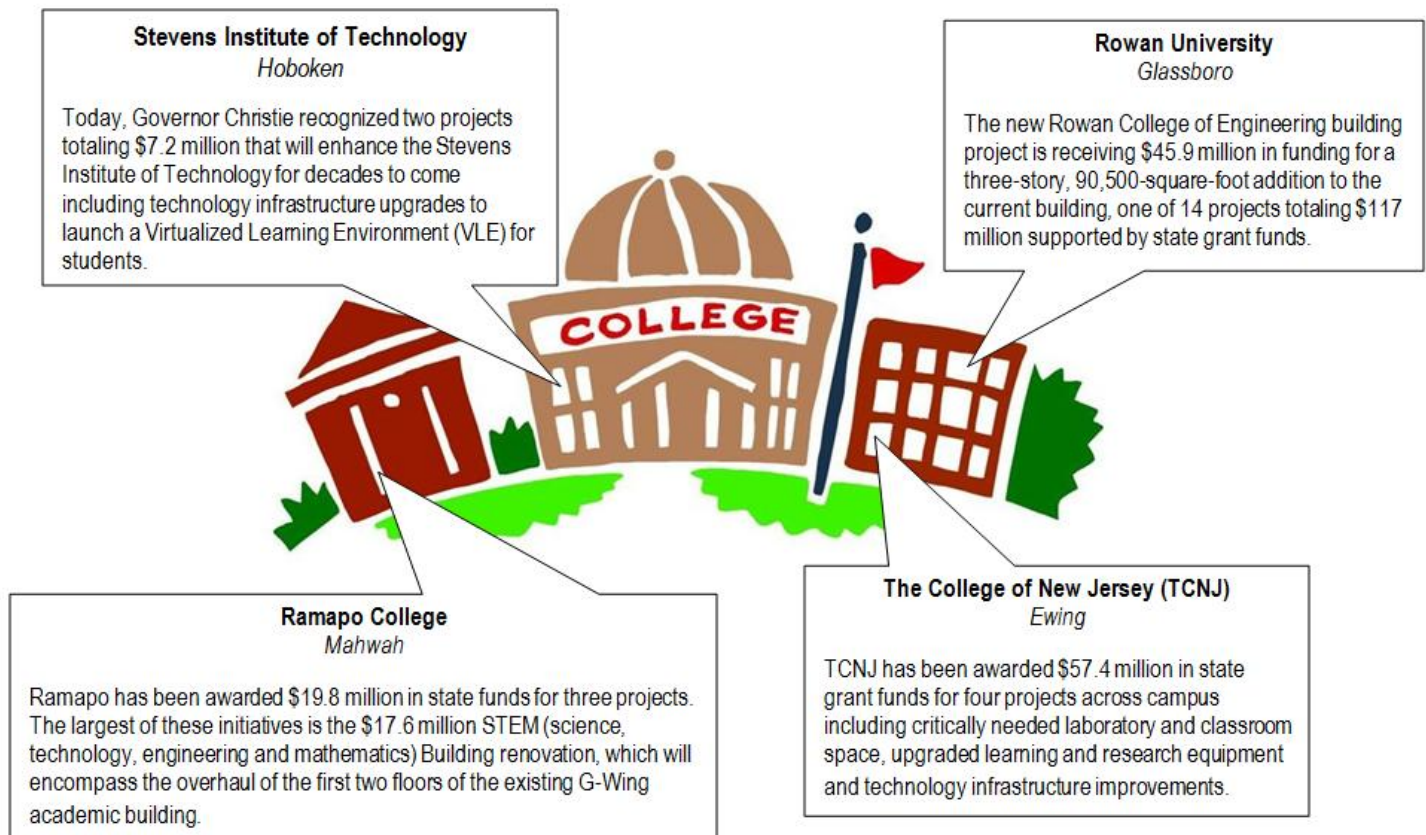
*At the Stevens Institute Of Technology Governor Christie Marks The Beginning Of Two Projects Funded By Historic Higher Education Capital Improvement Initiatives*

## BOTH PARTIES WORKING TOGETHER TO STRENGTHEN NEW JERSEY'S HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS

**May 2010:** Governor Christie signs legislation that makes it easier for public colleges and universities to enter into public-private partnerships for construction on campus, enabling the deployment of investment dollars by giving public colleges and universities a new tool at their disposal.

**August 2012:** Governor Christie continues his strong record of bipartisan cooperation and putting people ahead of politics when he signs the "New Jersey Medical and Health Sciences Education Restructuring Act." The Act is a long-awaited, overhaul and strengthening of the state's higher education system that had eluded leaders in the state for more than a decade.

**August 2012:** Governor Christie signs bipartisan legislation that allowed a \$750 million higher education bond referendum to appear on the ballot, which New Jersey voters approved in November 2012. This is the first bond referendum for capital improvements at the state's higher education institutions since 1988. As a result, approximately 176 construction projects have been approved at 46 of our colleges and universities throughout the state.



**Governor Christie:** "This is not an accomplishment that is my own or that I could have done on my own. [I]t couldn't happen without that type of bipartisan cooperation where we put aside differences, we emphasize the things that we agree on and we get our work done...."

**Senate President Sweeney:** "I want to thank [Governor Christie] for your willingness to work with a Democrat Legislature to put the people first and actually do something which was invest in higher education to make New Jersey—put it right back where it belongs: number one in the nation and number one in the world as an educated workforce."