

**VOTE**  
**Jan.**  
**26th**

# JACKSON SCHOOL NEWS

Referendum Edition

January 2010

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Don't miss our musicals!

Jackson Liberty  
High School Presents...



Thursday, Feb. 25 at 7 p.m.  
Friday, Feb. 26 at 7 p.m.  
Saturday, Feb. 27 at 7 p.m.

Jackson Memorial  
High School Presents...

Friday,  
March 12  
at 7:30 p.m.

Saturday,  
March 13  
at 2 p.m. &  
7:30 p.m.

Sunday,  
March 14  
at 2 p.m.



Tickets for the shows are on sale  
from 2 to 5 p.m. weekdays at  
the school auditoriums starting the  
month prior to the performance.

## QUESTIONS? NEED MORE INFO?

Visit our website and  
watch our video:  
[www.jacksonsd.org](http://www.jacksonsd.org)  
or call the district  
HOTLINE  
732-833-4686

## January 26 Referendum Seeks to Invest in Future *Residents may vote on each project separately*

In 2002, this town came together to create Jackson Liberty High School and to invest in our elementary schools.

In another referendum in 2006, Jackson again helped us make some needed improvements at Jackson Memorial High School and at the middle school level.

This **January 26**, we are asking voters to consider *another* important investment in the future of this district: To embrace the solar, security and instructional technologies available to us and to provide greater equity for all of our students.

Like every other district in New Jersey, we hold special referendum votes when we have important projects that can't be funded due to the constraints of our regular operating budget.

We realize economic times are difficult right now, but what average homeowners may not realize is that **there are benefits to acting now.**

For example, construction and labor prices are very competitive, there are millions of dollars in rebates and offsets available to us and we are eligible for millions of dollars in state aid, right now.

In addition to the funding available to us right now, we are proposing these projects because we believe the time is right to INVEST in technology, in security and in our schools so that we can further improve equity among our facilities.

While some of the projects -- like improvements to Jackson Memorial High School and the irrigation project at Jackson Liberty High School -- are school-specific, **there are two projects that affect ALL of Jackson.**

The solar project proposed in the first question will generate savings for the

entire district, and ultimately every taxpayer in Jackson. Neighboring districts like Toms River Regional and Howell have had great success embracing solar technology and **we are looking to reap the benefits as well.**

In addition to the immediate offsets, there are also additional savings we could enjoy through something called SRECs - Solar Renewable Energy Credits, which are credits paid to us by the Board of Public Utilities. These SRECs and the energy savings produced by generating our own electricity mean the **project will actually pay for itself in as little as 5.3 years.**

"In addition to the funding available to us right now, we are proposing these projects because we believe the time is right to INVEST in technology, in security and in our schools so that we can further improve equity among our facilities."

Thomas Gialanella,  
Superintendent

The security upgrade proposed in the second referendum is designed to utilize the technology available to us to enhance our system for keeping our students and staff safe.

Our security is good, but we believe this will make it better because we would be **moving that perimeter of safety from inside the**

**building to outside the building**, which experts recommend.

Inside this publication are details of all four questions, as well as a breakdown of costs and how each question would impact your taxes.

We are proposing these measures because we believe they make sense, but the decision is up to you - which is why we broke them out into four separate questions so they could be **evaluated individually.** I hope you will take the time to read this information and to ask questions. We want to be sure you are well informed as you make your choice.

Sincerely,  
**Thomas Gialanella**  
Superintendent of Schools

### WHY A REFERENDUM?

- The Board of Education’s annual budget covers the costs of running our schools, educating our students and performing a limited number of vital improvements
- The state-mandated 4% cap restricts us from taking on larger-scope projects using regular operating funds
- By law, districts are allowed to hold referendum votes on five specific dates during the year

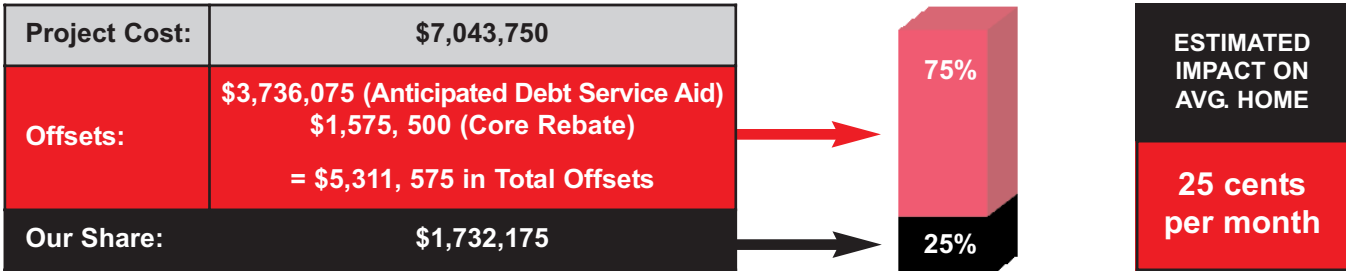
### WHY NOW?

- \$14.2 million in grant funds, rebates and state aid is available now.
- Pricing for construction labor and materials is very favorable right now as vendors and contractors compete for business. For example, a recent roof project came in 35% lower than we originally anticipated.
- Interest rates are approximately 4% right now.

## BREAKDOWN OF REFERENDUM QUESTIONS...

### Question 1: Going Solar

- Project involves installing 828.6 kilowatt system of solar panels on Clayton and Reider Wings of Jackson Memorial High School
- Would allow district to reap the same solar benefits that other districts (e.g. Toms River Regional, Howell) have experienced
- A “green” initiative that harnesses the power of the sun
- Project is eligible for \$1.5 million in solar rebates and \$3.7 million in state aid funding



- For the solar project, in addition to the immediate offsets listed here, there are also ANNUAL OFFSETS that would come back to the district. These offsets are above and beyond the ones listed above.
- Solar Renewable Energy Credits (SRECs) = estimated **\$348,000** x 15 years = **\$5,220,000 over term**
  - Energy produced to lower utility bills = estimated **\$147,905** x 15 years = **\$2,218,575 over term**

### Question 2: Security, Technology and Facility Upgrades

#### DISTRICT-WIDE SECURITY UPGRADE

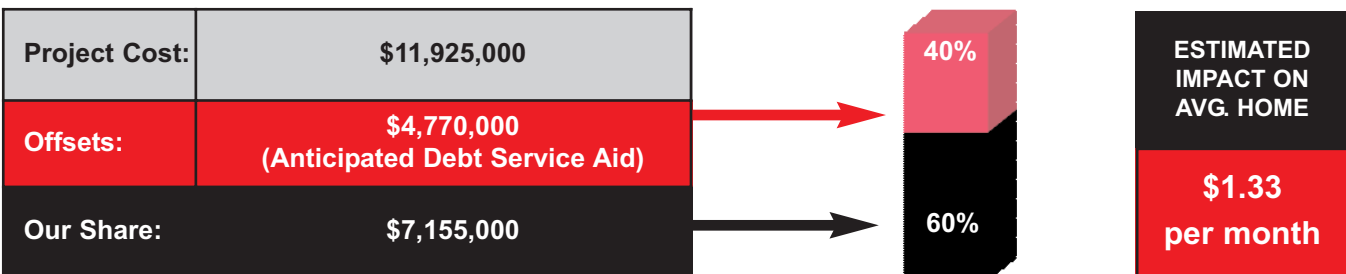
- Will improve security systems in ALL 10 DISTRICT SCHOOLS. It would allow us to lock outer doors and buzz in visitors only after they have been viewed on camera by on-site staff. It also features proximity cards for staff entry and centralized monitoring stations.
- The security systems we have in place are sufficient to maintain safe, secure environments for learning. However, our goal is to **enhance** our system using available, cost-effective technology.

#### JACKSON MEMORIAL HS TECH UPGRADES

- Rewire JMHS and enable wireless connections
- Install projectors and tablets in classrooms
- Replace select computer labs
- Install new switches to make a more reliable network

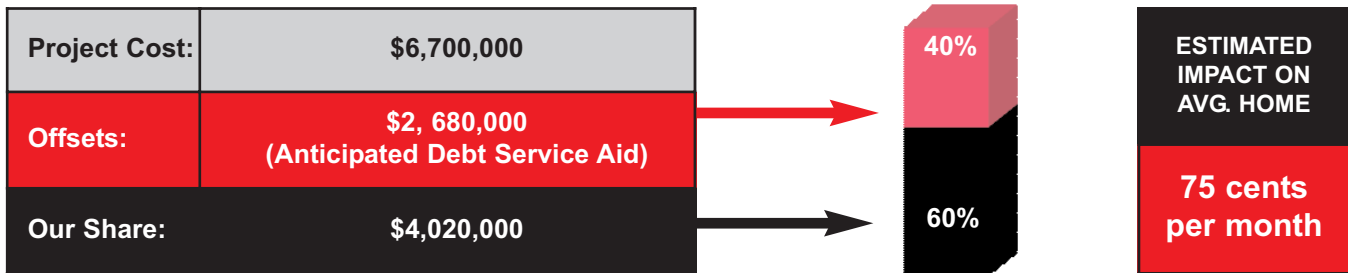
#### JACKSON MEMORIAL HS FACILITY UPGRADES

- Replace windows in B and C Wing in Reider Hall
- Replace interior and exterior doors and install ADA-compliant hardware where needed
- Replace drop ceilings & 1968 air handlers in Clayton Wing
- Upgrade problem generators and connect egress lighting



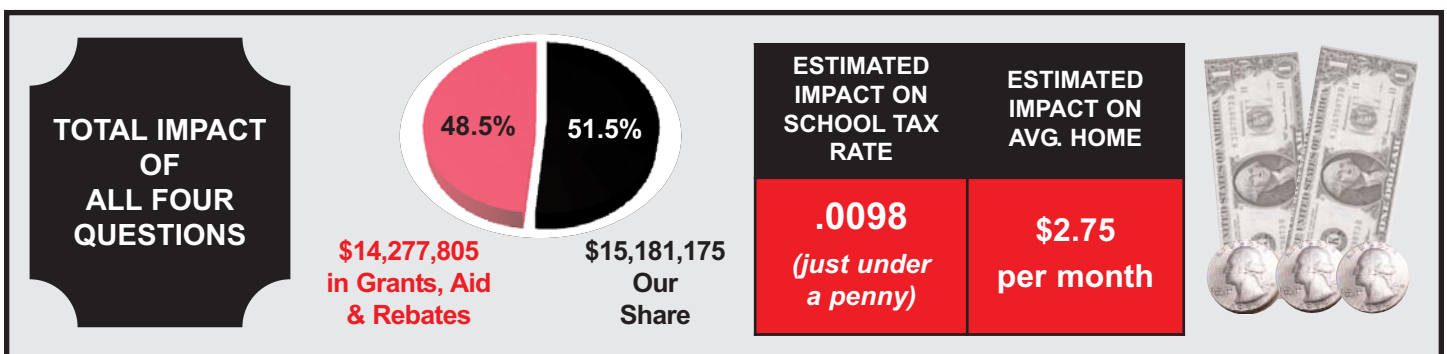
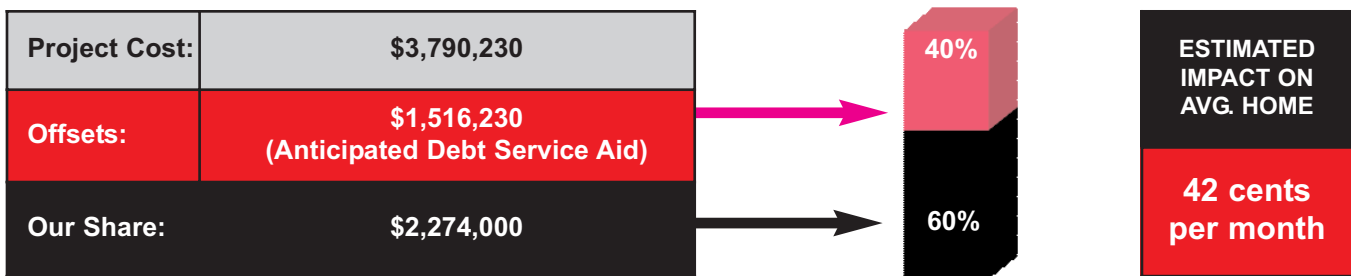
### Question 3: Jackson Memorial High School Air Conditioning

- JMHS is the last school to be air conditioned - this project remedies that and helps us provide greater equity in facilities.
- Provides a better learning environment for students during hot months - the district has been forced to dismiss JMHS early due to heat concerns.



### Question 4: Jackson Liberty High School Irrigation

- When the school was being built, the DEP law allowed the district to utilize a certain number of gallons for EACH school facility.
- Under the DEP's NEW interpretation of its own law, that same allocation now applies to all of our facilities COMBINED, meaning we would be over our limit if we tapped into the groundwater.
- The solution is to convert a detention basin on the site into a man-made pond, similar to those used on golf courses.
- This project provides a "green" and eco-friendly solution because we are recycling rainwater.



#### How would this referendum affect YOU?

**Find out using our online School Tax Estimate Calculator.**

The monthly tax impact amounts listed in this document are based on the average home assessment in Jackson (currently \$332,800).

Plugging your 2009 property assessment into the calculator will allow you to find out how the proposed referendum projects would affect YOU.

For the calculator and for more information, visit

**[www.jacksonsd.org](http://www.jacksonsd.org)**

If you do not have access to the internet, you are welcome to call our district hotline at

**732-833-4686**

and we can help you.

# VOTE TUESDAY, JAN. 26

## POLLS OPEN 11 A.M. TO 9 P.M.

If you have questions,  
please let us know!  
Visit our website or call our  
hotline at 732-833-4686

**Districts 1, 3 & 21**  
Jackson Municipal Bldg.  
95 W. Veterans Hwy

**Districts 2 & 15**  
VFW Post 4703,  
54 Magnolia Dr.

**Districts 4 & 24**  
Jackson Senior Center  
45 Don Connor Blvd.

**District 5**  
Winding Ways Clubhouse

**Districts 6 & 19**  
Holman Elementary  
125 Manhattan St.

**Districts 7, 8, 9 & 27**  
Italian American Club  
36 Christopher Columbus  
Blvd.

**Districts 10 & 12**  
Knights of Columbus  
401 Bartley Road

**District 11**  
Meadowbrook Clubhouse

**District 13**  
Oak Tree Mobile Homes  
656 Diamond Road

**District 14**  
Ocean County Vo-Tech  
850 Toms River Road

**District 16**  
Sixty Acres Clubhouse

**Districts 17 & 25**  
Jackson Mills Firehouse  
465 N. County Line Rd.

**District 18**  
Jackson Twp. MUA  
135 Manhattan Street

**Districts 20 & 23**  
Elms Elementary School  
780 Patterson Road

**Districts 22 & 26**  
Westlake Clubhouse

**District 28**  
Four Seasons at Metedeconk  
Lakes Clubhouse

**District 29**  
Four Seasons at South  
Knolls Clubhouse

### DON'T KNOW WHERE YOU VOTE?

Visit [www.jacksonsd.org](http://www.jacksonsd.org) for our street-by-street listing  
or call the hotline at 732-833-4686 until 8:45 p.m. on Jan. 26th.

## Jackson School District

151 Don Connor Boulevard  
Jackson, NJ 08527

[www.jacksonsd.org](http://www.jacksonsd.org)

### Board of Education

BARBARA FIERO, *President*  
SHARON E. DEY, *Vice President*  
MARVIN KRAKOWER  
LINDA A. LACKAY  
TRACEY MURNANE  
SCOTT D. SARGENT  
THERESA SCHIAZZA

### Administration

THOMAS GIALANELLA  
*Superintendent*

LU ANNE MEINDERS  
*Deputy Superintendent*

STEPHEN GENCO  
*Assistant Superintendent*

MICHELLE D. RICHARDSON  
*Business Administrator/Board Secretary*



NON PROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit #124  
Freehold, NJ

Local Postal Patron  
Jackson, New Jersey  
08527