August 20, 2012

Dr. Christina Van Woert, Superintendent
MORRIS COUNTY
Chester Township Board of Education
50 North Road-Building # 4
Closter, NJ 07624

Re: Approval of Long-Range Facilities Plan Amendment # 3
(Capital Maintenance; No Educational Adequacy/ Room Inventory Impact)

Dear Dr. Van Woert:

The Department of Education (Department) has completed its review of the proposed amendment to the approved Long-Range Facilities Plan (LRFP or Plan) submitted by the Closter Borough School District (District) pursuant to the Educational Facilities Construction and Financing Act, P.L. 2000, c. 72 (N.J.S.A. 18A: 7G-1 et seq.), as amended by P.L. 2007, c. 137 (Act), N.J.A.C. 6A:26 -1 et seq. (Educational Facilities Code), and the Facilities Efficiency Standards (FES). The amendment includes the following changes to the LRFP previously approved on February 22, 2008:

- Bragg, Dickerson, and Black River Schools installation of solar panel systems

The Department has approved the District’s LRFP amendment submission. The amendment submission includes updates to the Department’s LRFP website, as applicable, and the submission of required supporting documentation, including a Board of Education resolution authorizing the amendment. The approved amendment replaces all former LRFP approvals. Unless and until a new amendment is submitted to and approved by the Department pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7G-4(c), this approved LRFP shall remain in effect.

Approval of the LRFP amendment, and any projects and costs listed therein, does not imply approval of an individual school facilities project or its corresponding costs and eligibility for State support under the Act. Determination of preliminary eligible costs and final eligible costs will be made at the time of the approval of a particular school facilities project pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7G-5.
This approved LRFP amendment to include capital maintenance project(s) does not fulfill LRFP reporting requirements per N.J.S.A. 18A: 7G-4 (a), which require that an LRFP be amended at least once every five years to update enrollment projections, building capacities, and health and safety conditions.

The District is still required to resubmit an LRFP amendment within five years of the approval date of the 2005 LRFP, or a subsequent approved amendment that updated enrollment projections, the existing facilities inventory, and capital maintenance needs.

Please contact Anthony Brun, County Manager at the Office of School Facilities, telephone number (609) 984-7818 or email at anthony.brun@doc.state.nj.us with any questions pertaining to project advancement.

Sincerely,

Bernard E. Piaia, Jr.
Director, Office of School Facilities

BEP: FJL : ab

Enclosure

c: Christopher D. Cerf, Commissioner
   Chief of Staff
   David Corso, Assistant Commissioner Administration and Finance
   Dr. Kathleen C. Serafino, Executive County Superintendent
   Susan Kutner, Director of Policy and Planning, Office of School Facilities
   Anthony Brun, Office of School Facilities