

New Jersey voters favor \$750 million college bond act, Stockton poll says

By **DAVID SIMPSON, Staff Writer** | **Posted: Thursday, October 18, 2012 9:05 pm**

Seventy-two percent of New Jersey's likely voters support the "Build Our Future Bond Act," according to survey results released today by the Stockton Polling Institute.

Twenty-one percent opposed the act and 8 percent are not sure, don't know, or refused to answer, according to a release from the Richard Stockton College of New Jersey.

"Proponents of the 'Build Our Future Bond Act' say the \$750 million will be invested in academic and research facilities in colleges and universities in New Jersey," the release said. "Institutions receiving funds must provide 25 percent match of the capital funding for projects by the Bond Act."

If the bond is approved next month, the funds would go toward funding of projects at both Richard Stockton College in Galloway Township, and Atlantic Cape Community College in Mays Landing.

The funds can only be used for academic buildings and colleges much contribute a quarter of the costs.

State research institutions such as Rutgers, New Jersey Institute of Technology, and likely Rowan University would receive \$300 million of the bond, and nearly \$250 million would go to the other nine four-year colleges.

Some \$150 million would go to the 19 community colleges, and \$50 million to private colleges, except for Princeton University.

Saatkamp said future plans also call for new academic buildings for business and education, which are growth areas for the college. He noted that the new science building, which will be completed in 2013, is only two-thirds of the size they wanted, but was all the college could afford at the time.

Likely New Jersey voters also favor the Public Question allowing changes in compensation for judges. Sixty-two percent are in favor of changing the New Jersey Constitution. Thirty percent are opposed and 9 percent are not sure, don't know, or refused to answer.

The survey questioned 811 likely voters with a margin of error of +/- 3.5 percent at 95 percent confidence level.

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