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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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EWING BOARD OF EDUCATION APPROVES 2012-13 FINAL SCHOOL BUDGET

At its March 26th meeting held at the Fisher Middle School, the Ewing Township Board of Education approved the final budget for the 2012-13 school year.

The approval of the budget by the Board marks the culmination of the budget building process for the 2012-13 school year. For the first time, the school budget will not be presented to voters, as the Board adopted a resolution allowing the district to move its board election to November and eliminate budget votes entirely for spending that falls within the new 2 percent tax cap.

The final budget is virtually unchanged from the preliminary budget approved by the Board in March, and was recently approved by the Department of Education, which conducts a thorough and comprehensive review of the spending plan to ensure transparency, efficiency and compliance with accountability regulations. With this Board action, the budget will be ready for implementation in July.

“By combining the Board election with the general election, we save over \$20,000 in related costs, and that is all taxpayer savings,” Superintendent Mike Nitti stated. “This move enables us to build a budget that moves the district forward while maintaining our tradition of being respectful to the taxpayers. Furthermore, we are able to immediately begin making preparations for the upcoming school year.”

Programs maintained in the budget include full-day kindergarten, middle and high school athletics, K-12 music and art, and after-school activities and programs. The budget adds a high school business teacher, expands the elementary level early intervention program, and has funds available to address class size issues as well as targeted facility needs.

“We have enjoyed strong support in recent years,” stated School Business Administrator Brian Falkowski, alluding to the passage of six straight budget votes by the community, including the turbulent 2010-11 budget election. “So our goal in building this budget was to preserve our current programs and offerings, and also to provide the opportunity to move the district forward. We are excited about what this budget represents as far as being a sound investment in our students and community.”

The final budget comes in at the 2% budget cap.

All information pertaining to the 2012-13 budget can be found on our website www.ewing.k12.nj.us under the homepage Site Shortcuts menu.

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