

## MIDDLETOWN

## \$13M 'green' library wins final OK

*Officials said the library on the George School campus should be completed by 2009.*

By CHRIS ENGLISH COURIER TIMES

Chris English can be reached at 215-949-4193 or [cenglish@phillyBurbs.com](mailto:cenglish@phillyBurbs.com).

The Middletown supervisors granted final approval Tuesday night to a new \$13 million environmentally friendly library at George School, the private Quaker school on Route 413 in the township's northern end.

The two-story, 27,000-square-foot Mollie Dodd Anderson Library will be built according to specifications of the federal Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design program, said project engineer Gary Bulik and George School Director of Physical Plant Alex Luyando.

Instead of burning oil or natural gas, it will be heated and cooled with a geothermal system that involves drilling several holes 400 feet into the ground, installing pipes in the holes and then pumping a type of antifreeze through the pipes that will conduct the earth's natural heat and coolness into the building.

The library will also use recyclable materials wherever possible and will have six rain gardens as a natural stormwater management system, said Bulik and Luyando.

"You're doing an excellent job of turning this as green as you possibly can," said supervisors chairwoman Lisa Pflaumer.

Luyando said the new library will replace an 8,700-square-foot library that will be renovated and converted into another use that hasn't been determined. Construction on the new library is scheduled to start in May and be completed by June of 2009, he added.

"George School has outgrown the current library," said Bulik.

The new library will have an extensive computer system and many other features, Luyando added.

"We're trying to pattern it after a library you'd find at a university and not just a place you go to check out a book," he said.