



For More Information:

Edye Maier - (609) 292-6246

August 10, 2012

Christie Administration Advances \$485,000 Emergent Repair Project at Yorkship Elementary School in Camden City

TRENTON – As part of Governor Christie’s commitment to ensuring New Jersey’s school facilities are safe learning environments for all students, the New Jersey Schools Development Authority (SDA) has advanced construction of an emergent repair project estimated at more than \$485,000 at Yorkship Elementary School in Camden City. More emergent projects have been completed by the Christie Administration than any other prior administration.

“The SDA is proud and excited to be part of the Christie Administration’s collaborative effort to provide Camden students with the educational facilities they need,” said CEO Marc Larkins. “The work at Yorkship Elementary School is just one of many projects the SDA is advancing to ensure safe learning environments for students in Camden City and throughout the state.”

The emergent repair project at Yorkship Elementary School will replace two existing boilers at the school. Yorkship Elementary School, built in 1920, is a 76,526 square-foot facility that educates 656 students in Pre-kindergarten through sixth grades.

Emergent projects are those deemed necessary in SDA Districts due to potential health and safety issues. The Emergent Project Program provides assistance to SDA District school facilities in need of repair and rehabilitation. Emergent projects include the repair or replacement of roofs, windows, exterior masonry and heating and cooling systems. Emergent projects also include plumbing, electrical, mechanical and security systems and address water infiltration issues.

Prior to the Christie Administration, funds available for these projects were nearly exhausted and project review procedures were insufficient making it difficult to prioritize critical projects in a deliberate and cost efficient manner. In 2011, the SDA and Department of Education (DOE) launched its second statewide effort to identify and evaluate eligible emergent conditions in the 31 SDA Districts. The conditions reported by the districts were evaluated and validated by the SDA and the Department of Education (DOE).

The SDA manages many projects identified as emergent, while others are delegated for District management, depending upon the project’s scope and complexity. This emergent project has been delegated to Camden Public Schools for management. For those projects that are delegated, the SDA executes a grant agreement with the District, which is then responsible for procuring and disbursing payment to the consultants and contractors. The SDA maintains oversight throughout this process.

The SDA has invested more than \$261 million in completed projects in Camden alone including five Capital projects, six SDA-managed emergent projects and 46 health and safety projects. The SDA’s current portfolio of active projects is valued at over \$2.2 billion – including the 2011 and 2012 Capital Project portfolios (more than \$1B), additional projects in construction (\$198.3M), emergent projects (\$45.9M) and Regular Operating District grants (\$771M in state share)