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**Christie Administration Announces Opening of New School in Elizabeth**  
*Students at Victor Mravlag School Number 21 Start School Year in New Facility*

TRENTON – The Christie Administration today announced the opening of the new Victor Mravlag School Number 21 in Elizabeth. Nearly 500 students in grades Pre-kindergarten through eighth began the school year in the new 80,164 square foot building.

“The addition of the new Victor Mravlag School No. 21 in Elizabeth will support the District’s goals of promoting excellence among students and faculty,” said CEO Marc Larkins. “We know that this facility will significantly benefit the community and provide an excellent learning environment for many generations.”

The new Victor Mravlag School No. 21 opened to students for the first day of school on Tuesday, September 10. The facility includes 22 general use classrooms, a gymnasium, a cafetorium with a stage, an art studio, instrumental and choral music rooms, a science classroom with an adjacent demonstration lab and a state-of-the-art media center.

Following previous construction delays that stemmed from unforeseen structural deficiencies and environmental issues, the SDA extensively evaluated the most cost effective and timely course of action to bring this project to completion. With a new plan of action in place, the Christie Administration worked very closely with Ernest Bock & Sons, the General Contractor, to advance the Victor Mravlag School No. 21 project in 2011 with SDA serving as the construction manager for the project.

In Elizabeth, the SDA has previously completed 11 Capital Projects including seven new school facilities and four other major projects, and 23 health and safety/grant projects, investing over \$328.4 million since the program’s inception.

The SDA’s current portfolio of active projects is valued at over \$2 billion – including the 2011 and 2012 Capital Project portfolios (more than \$1.3 billion), an additional project in construction (\$55 million), emergent projects (\$50 million) and Regular Operating District grants (\$577 million state share). This portfolio includes the new Academic High School in Elizabeth.

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