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## Christie Administration Officials Joined By Newark Students for Beam Signing Event



**NEWARK, NJ** – New Jersey Schools Development Authority (SDA) CEO Charles McKenna joined Newark students and local officials for a “beam signing” ceremony to highlight the progress of construction on the new Oliver Street Elementary School. The ceremony celebrated the ongoing construction of the school by signing a steel beam that will be hoisted into place as a permanent part of the new facility.

“As Newark strives to ensure that all students are educated in excellent schools, the SDA is pleased to partner with them by investing in Newark’s public education through the building of the new Oliver Street School,” said SDA CEO Charles B. McKenna. “I am pleased that the students participating in today’s ceremony are already making their mark on this new school that will help them on their path to success.”

Located in the East Ward, the new 137,000 square foot Oliver Street Elementary School will replace the current antiquated school which was constructed in 1869. The building will educate approximately 850 students in Pre-Kindergarten through eighth grades with 30 general use classrooms, four kindergarten classrooms, six prekindergarten classrooms, specialized instruction classrooms and labs, a media center, separate cafeteria, gymnasium and a multipurpose room with stage.

The school is being built using the design-build approach. Epic Management, Inc. of Piscataway, NJ is the design-build contractor, working in partnership with Nadaskay Kopelson Architects of Morristown, NJ on the design. The project is being managed by Gilbane Building Company of New Brunswick, NJ. Total estimated project costs are \$73.6 million.

The SDA has invested more than \$562 million in completed projects in Newark. This includes 11 capital projects and 121 Health and Safety/Grants/Emergent Projects. In addition to the Oliver Street School, two other new school construction projects are ongoing in Newark – the Elliott Street School and the

South Street School. The advancement of these three projects represents a State commitment of more than \$177 million for the Newark School District.

The SDA's current portfolio of active projects is valued at \$2 billion – including the Capital Project Portfolio (more than \$1.5 billion), emergent projects (\$100 million) and Regular Operating District grants (\$450 million state share).

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