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New Jersey Schools Development Authority Officials Break Ground for Seaman Avenue Elementary School in Perth Amboy



Perth Amboy, NJ – New Jersey Schools Development Authority (SDA) CEO Charles McKenna joined Perth Amboy School District and local officials today to break ground for the new Seaman Avenue Elementary School. Once completed, the school will be the fourth new facility built by the SDA in Perth Amboy.

“As we break ground for the new Seaman Avenue Elementary School, we celebrate the start of a project that will provide Perth Amboy students with an inviting learning environment equipped with the educational tools that will help them succeed,” said SDA CEO Charles McKenna. “Thanks to our ongoing partnership with the Perth Amboy School District and local officials, this community will have another quality educational facility that will help to alleviate the overcrowding experienced by the district.”

The Seaman Avenue Elementary School will be a new 128,000-square-foot facility designed to educate approximately 800 students in grades kindergarten through five. The 3-story building will be constructed on District-owned land. The school will include 38 classrooms, six Small Group Instruction Rooms, four Basic skills/ESL/Resource rooms, a Science Demonstration Room, a speech room, vocal and instrumental music rooms, a computer lab, a gymnasium, a media center, a cafeteria, a multipurpose room with stage, outdoor play and learning areas. The facility is currently scheduled to open to students in September 2019.

“The building of the new Seaman Avenue Elementary School provides the students of the Perth Amboy Public School District access to exemplary resources to achieve academic excellence,” said Dr. David A. Roman, Perth Amboy Public School District Superintendent. “I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge everyone’s effort, especially the SDA, in continuing to work in the best interest of our students, parents, staff and community.”

The school is being built using the design-build approach. This method differs from the traditional approach in that SDA contracts with one firm for both design and construction of a school facilities project. The design-build method also allows for some design and construction activities to proceed concurrently through phased advancement, an approach that potentially allows for improvement upon the original overall schedule.

EPIC Management of Piscataway was awarded a \$43.6 million design-build contract for the design and construction of the school. As part of the design-build contract, EPIC Management is working with DIGroup Architects of New Brunswick on the design. GREYHAWK North America LLC of Mt. Laurel is managing the project. The total estimated project cost is \$56.4 million.

The SDA has invested nearly \$93 million in completed projects in Perth Amboy alone since the inception of the school construction program. Its current portfolio of active projects is valued at approximately \$2 billion – including the Capital Project portfolio, emergent projects, and Regular Operating District grants.

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