



STATE OF NEW JERSEY

# SCHOOLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

**Building Schools, Building Communities, Building Opportunities**

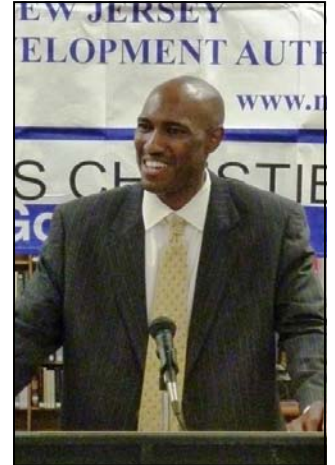
**Volume 1, Winter 2012**

## Message from CEO Marc Larkins

Under Governor Chris Christie's leadership, the SDA has undergone sweeping reforms that have transformed the Authority into an entity that is worthy of the taxpayers' trust. I am proud of the Authority's streamlined organizational structure and new processes and procedures that will ensure efficiency and accountability like never before.

With a new structure in place, the Authority is now poised to advance projects approved as part of the SDA's new [Capital Program](#). The new program ends the practice of over-promising and under-delivering. We will strive to stretch our limited resources as we respond to the needs that exist through utilizing standardized elements and examining alternative delivery methods.

I also encourage you to view the SDA's most recent [biannual report](#) for a more thorough update on the Authority's activities. I look forward to continuing to work with our partners as we advance the work of the Authority.



## Fall 2011 School Openings

The SDA opened three facilities in the Fall for the 2011-2012 school year, continuing on its mission to deliver high-quality educational facilities that best meet the needs of the students of the State of New Jersey. These three facilities impact 3930 students and represent a state investment of \$110.2 million. The openings include the new Early Childhood Center in Pemberton, the new Morgan Village Middle School in Camden and the significant renovation/addition of Egg Harbor Township High School in Egg Harbor Township.

## Emergent Projects

The SDA fully funds emergent projects in the 31 SDA Districts. In March 2011, the SDA Board of Directors approved the 2011 Capital Program which included the allocation of an additional \$100 million to fund emergent projects in the 31 SDA Districts.

In June 2011, the SDA and Department of Education (DOE) launched its second State-wide effort to identify and evaluate eligible emergent conditions in over 475 school facilities. The SDA and DOE will be working with the 31 SDA Districts to review the district's potential emergent conditions that may be funded with the allocated \$100 million.

Emergent projects are initiated when potential health-and-safety conditions dictate that rehabilitation work is necessary on an expedited basis such as the repair or replacement of roofs, windows, exterior masonry and

heating and cooling systems. As of December 2011, 5 SDA managed emergent projects were in construction and 27 had previously been completed. In addition, 42 emergent projects that had been delegated to the local district for management were in construction and 13 had previously been completed.

For more information on the SDA's Emergent Program, [please click here](#).

## **Executed ROD Grants**

Furthering the Governor's commitment to providing the state's children with safe, modern and efficient schools, the SDA executed Regular Operating District (ROD) grants impacting hundreds of districts around the state. The state-grant program funds at least 40 percent of eligible costs for projects in the RODs, addressing health and safety issues, student overcrowding and other critical needs.



Since the resumption of the grant program in May 2010, the SDA has executed 716 grants providing nearly \$214 million to local districts, leveraging projects estimated at a total of \$477.7 million as of December 31, 2011.

In June, CEO Marc Larkins had the opportunity to participate in a ribbon cutting ceremony of the new gymnasium at the Reeds Road Elementary School in Galloway Township, New Jersey. This is just one example of the valued benefits that schools receive through the ROD Grant program.

For more information on the SDA's ROD Grant Program for School Facilities Projects, [please click here](#).

## **SDA Board**

The SDA has welcomed two new members to the Board. Mr. Edward Walsh was approved by the Senate in January 2011 and was subsequently appointed Chairman by Governor Christie. Mr. Walsh is the founder and Managing Principal of The Walsh Company, a multi-service commercial real estate advisory organization specializing in client representation and project management services. He resides in Basking Ridge with his wife and three children.

Ms. Loren Lemelle was approved by the Senate in June 2011. Ms. Lemelle spent more than 20 years in finance with Johnson & Johnson and its companies, advancing to the posts of corporate controller and director of organizational and professional development, both in Corporate Finance. Ms. Lemelle also served on the Hillsborough Township Board of Education as President, Vice President and chair of negotiations.

The SDA holds its monthly Board meetings on the 1st Wednesday of the month. Meetings are held in the Board Room at our 1 West State Street offices beginning at 9:00am.

[Click here](#) for a listing a meeting minutes and agenda items.

---

**For more information please visit our website at [www.njsda.gov](http://www.njsda.gov) or call 609.341.5900**

**To contact the SDA, please email the Authority at [CustomerService@njsda.gov](mailto:CustomerService@njsda.gov)**