

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: Members of the Authority

FROM: Larry Hanover, Senior Public Information Manager

DATE: September 1, 2009

SUBJECT: New Jersey Schools Development Authority (SDA)
Summer Progress Report

Introduction:

In September, the SDA is celebrating the opening of 12 new and modernized schools statewide, marking continued progress by New Jersey's school construction program in providing educational opportunities and stimulating the economy. The 12 schools built by the SDA provide 5,882 new student seats – increasing the capacity of those schools to nearly 9,000.

They also represent an investment of \$575 million, which created/saved 5,000 jobs over the course of construction. The SDA also has achieved the milestone of completing 50 new schools in SDA Districts. Investment in these schools over the course of the decade totals \$1.9 billion, impacting 33,000 students and creating/saving 16,700 jobs.

New schools replace two built over a century ago – Camden's Dudley Elementary School (1904) and H.B. Wilson Elementary School (1907) – when Theodore Roosevelt was President and the Model T had yet to roll off Ford Motor Company's assembly line.

The school construction program is central to the state's effort to mitigate the effects of the national recession. For 2009, the SDA has accelerated projects to advance Governor Corzine's Economic Assistance and Recovery Plan to spur the economy and generate jobs. The SDA is on track to begin preliminary or full construction of 27 Capital Plan projects in 2009. Overall, the SDA will invest \$1.3 billion in these projects. Over the life of the projects, the SDA expects to create or save approximately 11,000 jobs.

Below is a complete list of SDA-managed schools opening this fall, which includes six new schools and six additions and/or renovations.

• Barnegat Twp.**	Lillian M. Dunfee ES	Add/Rehab Existing Facility
• Barnegat Twp.**	Robert L. Horbelt ES	Add/Rehab Existing Facility
• Bridgeton*	Senior HS Media Center	Add/Renovation
• Camden*	Dudley ES	New Construction
• Camden*	H.B. Wilson ES	New Construction
• Egg Harbor City**	Charles L. Spragg ES	Add/Rehab Existing Facility
• East Orange*	Performing Arts School	New Construction
• Newark*	Park School	New Construction
• Orange*	Park Avenue ES	Add/Renovation
• Perth Amboy*	Early Childhood Center II	New Construction
• Union City*	Union City HS	New Construction
• West New York*	Number 2 ES	Rehab Existing Facility

* SDA Districts

** Regular Operating Districts

SDA Events:

- July 14: CEO Kris Kolluri spoke to the New Jersey State Building & Construction Trades Council, AFL-CIO, Convention regarding the status of the school construction program and job creation.
- July 15: Egg Harbor City Middle School Beam Signing: Ceremony marked the topping-off of structural steel at Egg Harbor City Middle School, and showed progress in suburban school construction. The 61,954-square-foot facility will house 364 students in grades 4-8. It is scheduled for a September 2010 opening.
- July 22: Speech to NAACP group: At a breakfast meeting of the NAACP of The Oranges and Maplewood, CEO Kolluri participated in a panel discussion on the organization's national mandate on Economic Empowerment.
- August 27: CEO Kolluri and **Egg Harbor City** school board officials marked the opening of the expanded, modernized **Charles L. Spragg Elementary School**, celebrating efforts to enhance the teaching of literacy through a new technology-enhanced library/media center. The expanded facility accommodates 338 students in pre-kindergarten through 3rd grade. The library/media center provides modern resources including up-to-date books and reference materials, 24 laptop computers, six personal computers and an interactive whiteboard. The addition includes three new classrooms; an additional classroom was renovated. The project invested approximately \$2.6 million into the local economy.
- August 28: CEO Kolluri and **West New York** Board of Education officials opened the expanded, modernized and environmentally sustainable **Public School**

No. 2 and celebrated teachers' excellence in this school and across the district. The school was honored by former President Bill Clinton this month, receiving the Healthy Schools Program National Recognition Bronze Award for 2008-09 for improving the learning and working environments of students and staff. The school offers up-to-date academic and technological resources to 705 students in pre-K through 6th grade. The project invested \$29.9 million into the local economy and created/saved about 259 jobs over the duration of construction.

Upcoming Events:

- **September 2: Perth Amboy Early Childhood Center:** A ribbon-cutting will celebrate the opening of the Edmund Hmieleski Jr. Early Childhood Center as preschoolers enter the first school they are attending in their young lives. The school accommodates up to 405 preschool students. It provides an early childhood facility with shared specialized program spaces conveniently located for access by both school attendees and residents of the community. There are 27 classrooms and two multipurpose rooms. It has three learning sectors with a controlled play area with playground equipment connected to each sector. The school is being formally named after the late Edmund Hmieleski Jr., who served 15 years on the Perth Amboy school board. His family members attended the ceremony.
- **September 3: Newark's Park Elementary School:** An event is scheduled to mark the first day of school for students across Newark Public Schools. Park Elementary School accommodates up to 690 students in grades preK-8. The event will mark the fourth new school completed in Newark. Science Park High School opened in 2006, First Avenue School in 2007 and Central High School in 2008.
- **September 8: Camden's H.B. Wilson Elementary School.** A ribbon-cutting will feature students and a school marching band, proceeding from the old school to the new facility, which accommodates 539 students in pre-K through 6th grades. The new H.B. Wilson School has such community features as a gym, library/media center and playground accessible to students and neighborhood residents alike.
- **September 9: Speech to NJ SEED:** CEO Kolluri will speak about the status of the school construction program, including advancement of projects and job creation, to NJ SEED (New Jersey Society for Environmental, Economic Development).
- **September 10: Orange's Park Elementary School.** A ribbon-cutting is scheduled to open an addition and renovations to Park Avenue, the oldest public school structure still in use in Orange. The school has a capacity of 383 students for grades pre-K-8. Along with the renovation, the project entails a 68,527-square-foot addition and two new playgrounds. The addition has a gym, cafeteria, media center, administrative office and eight classrooms.

- September 10: **Burlington City High School.** A ribbon-cutting and dedication of the new addition to retired former superintendent Dr. Edward F. Gola Jr. will be held. The addition, which opened last year, consists of a media center, classrooms, art rooms, computer rooms and science rooms. Recently completed additional work included expansion and renovation of the existing cafeteria and kitchen, and a complete renovation of the music wing with a small expansion in the instrumental room. The high school houses students in grades 7 through 12.
- September 16: **Bridgeton Senior High School Media Center Addition.** A ribbon-cutting will be held to open a new Media Center addition and renovation of the existing library. The ceremony will be videotaped by the school's journalism and video production students. The project also includes an elevator addition for access to the second floor of the school that will make the school compliant with Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) regulations. The school serves 1,400 students in grades 9 through 12.
- September 16: **Speech to High Performance Buildings for Education Summit:** CEO Kolluri will speak about the SDA's efforts to build green, efficient school at this national event hosted by BASF in New York.
- September 17: **Camden's Thomas H. Dudley Elementary School.** A ribbon-cutting will open the new community-based facility that includes such shared features as a gym, media center and playground accessible to students and residents alike. It replaces the old Dudley School, which will be demolished. The new two-story school has 321 classrooms and accommodates up to 539 students from pre-kindergarten through grade 6. It also has a large playground with equipment, green field and a paved area.
- September 21: **New Phillipsburg High School.** Groundbreaking is scheduled for pre-site work that will include blasting part of the bedrock at the Belvidere Road property.
- September 23: **Speech to New Jersey State Chamber of Commerce:** CEO Kolluri will speak about SDA efforts to advance projects and spur job creation.
- September 24: **New East Orange Cicely Tyson Community School of Performing and Fine Arts.** A ribbon-cutting will open the new 1,300-student pre-K through grade 12 performing arts/music magnet school on a 12-acre campus within the city's Main Street redevelopment area. It offers a classic model for schools as a catalyst for urban economic development. The project provides many features to serve the community after-hours including a library and media center, gymnasium, auditoriums, cafeteria, music and art rooms, health and dental clinics and the performing arts elements. An outdoor amphitheater serves

requirements of the school facility while being accessible to the community-at-large during non-school hours.

- **September 25: New Union City High School and Athletic Complex.** A ribbon-cutting will open the new high school on the former site of the landmark Roosevelt Stadium, demolished to make way for this project. The high school is unique with its innovative design, which includes a new rooftop athletic field. There will be exterior pedestrian access ramps on the north and south ends of the structure for community sporting events after school hours. Community features accessible to students and residents include the athletic field, gym, auditorium media center, cafeteria, health care and family support services. The new high school serves approximately 1,800 students.

Construction Update:

Overall the SDA has completed 613 projects in SDA Districts: 50 new schools; 44 extensive additions, renovations and/or rehabilitations; five demonstration projects and more than 500 other projects. In addition, it has completed 22 projects in Regular Operating Districts: four new schools and 18 extensive additions, renovations and/or rehabilitations.

Contractor Procurement:

Bids advertised in August included construction of **Marshall Street Elementary School** and **Pedestrian Bridge in Paterson**, construction of the **New Elementary School at Henry Street in Passaic** and site work at the **New Phillipsburg High School** project. (Exhibit A)

Construction Contracts:

As of August 31, 2009, the Authority has entered into construction contracts totaling \$3,625,845,092 since the inception of the school construction program in 2002.

Section 15 Grants

The SDA has resumed disbursing **Section 15** grants to Regular Operating Districts. So far this year, the SDA has executed **75** Section 15 grant agreements in 15 counties impacting **42** schools in **27** districts. In the month of July, the SDA executed **28** Section 15 grants in **10** counties impacting **25** schools in **19** districts. From its inception in 2002 through July 31, 2009, the SDA has executed **2,640** Section 15 grant agreements in all 21 counties. To date, **1,443** schools in **477** districts have been impacted by the Section 15 grant program. Total project costs amount to **\$7,118,523,626**, for which the State share totals **\$2,218,856,981**.



Larry Hanover

Construction Bid Advertising and Bid Due Dates as of August 31, 2009

Package #	District	Description of Work	# of Schools	Advertised Web Date	Advertised Newspaper Date	Bid Due Date
PA-0006-C03	Paterson	Construction of new Marshall Street Elementary School and Pedestrian Bridge	1	8/6/09	8/7/09	9/10/09
NT-0019-C02 RB1	Passaic	Construction of new Elementary School at Henry Street	1	8/13/09	8/14/09	9/16/09
NT-0003-N01	Phillipsburg	Site work at new Phillipsburg High School includes rock removal, remediation, erosion controls, grading	1	8/11/09	8/14/09	9/16/09

Exhibit A