



MEMORANDUM

TO: Directors of the Corporation

FROM: Kevin McElroy
Senior Public Information Officer

DATE: June 19, 2006

SUBJECT: New Jersey Schools Construction Corporation (SCC)
May Progress Report

Mission Statement

Create a brighter future for our children by renovating, building and funding cost-effective and efficient state-of-the-art community schools that support high quality learning environments to better prepare students for successful careers and leadership in the 21st Century in New Jersey and beyond.

Partner with communities and leaders in business, education and government to support our programs, policies and projects to create greater opportunities for our children, businesses and workforce.

Introduction

May was highlighted by school construction milestones in Abbott districts throughout the State. Joined by district officials, students and community supporters, the SCC:

- opened a new elementary school in Neptune;
- dedicated a new addition and major renovations at Gloucester City High School;
- broke ground for a high school in Trenton and elementary school in Elizabeth;
- held a beam-signing at a new elementary school in Camden.

In Regular Operating Districts (non-Abbotts), the SCC executed 14 grants impacting 13 schools in five counties with 6 districts that receive less than 55% of their budget in state aid. These Section 15 grants supported projects totaling more than \$7 million – with a state share totaling nearly \$3 million. Since its inception, SCC has executed 2,510 grants, providing over \$2.2 billion in funding aid impacting over 1,400 schools in 468 districts.



Trenton Breaks Ground for Demonstration Project

Daylight/Twilight High School to Help Revitalize Neighborhood

A ceremonial groundbreaking May 3rd marked the start of construction of the City of Trenton’s new Daylight/Twilight High School – an educational facility tailored to adult students – that is designed to spur revitalization efforts in the downtown Canal Banks redevelopment area known as the “Old Trenton Neighborhood.”

The SCC is investing \$543 million in Demonstration Projects – public/private community development initiatives where schools act as catalysts to attract new housing and business. They are designated for Camden, East Orange, New Brunswick, Trenton, Union City and Vineland.

The Daylight/Twilight High School will be part of an urban campus with such community-based learning institutions as Mercer County Community College, the Public Library and YWCA around a central open space. It will house the Trenton school district’s successful educational program that provides non-traditional students age 16 to 75 – including working parents and retired grandparents – the opportunity to earn a high school diploma and pursue higher academic and vocational studies. For the past eight years, the Daylight/Twilight program has operated in satellite facilities, providing instruction for 1,400 students during three four-hour shifts daily.

The new Daylight/Twilight High School at East Hanover and Montgomery streets will include 40,000 square feet of new construction linked to 61,000 square feet of renovated space in two five-story buildings and a one-story building. It will include a day care center, auditorium and meeting rooms for community activities. School officials expect it to open by fall 2008. Mercer County Improvement Authority is the redevelopment entity for the Trenton project, the developer is Joseph Jingoli and Son, working with the school district, city officials and the SCC.



SCC, Gloucester City Educators Celebrate Expansion, Major Renovations of High School

The SCC and Officials of the Gloucester City School District held a grand opening May 13th for the newly expanded and renovated Gloucester City Junior-Senior High School that will ease overcrowding and enhance the quality of education for its 900 students.

Students, parents and residents, along with state and local officials, were on hand for a ribbon-cutting ceremony and tours of the addition to the one-story high school at Route 130 and Market Street in this Camden County community.

The 27,000-square-foot addition accommodates the much-needed additional classroom space. Other work includes upgrades to HVAC and electrical and fire alarm systems, new restrooms and replacement of the roof, windows, doors, boiler and auditorium seating. The high school project was designed by USA Architects and built by Network Construction Company, Inc. URS Inc. is the SCC project management firm.



SCC, Neptune Twp. Dedicate New Summerfield School

The SCC and Neptune Township School District officials joined students, teachers, parents and community supporters May 17th at a dedication and open house for the new Summerfield Elementary School.

Summerfield School will provide a 21st century learning environment for 736 students in pre-Kindergarten through 5th grade – including essential early childhood instruction for 3- and 4-year-olds. It is part of the final phase of Neptune’s Long Range Facility Plan (LRFP) to ease overcrowding and increase the quality of education and level of student achievement.

The new school also embraces cost-efficient, sustainable environmental and green building technologies and marked SCC’s first venture into the cost- and time-saving design-build approach.

Superintendent David A. Mooij stated, “With the opening of the new Summerfield Elementary School, Neptune Township completes its first new-from-the-ground-up facility. It will not only provide students with a code compliant, up-to-date educational facility but will act to serve the students as a ‘3-D textbook’ for ‘Live Event Learning.’ The school will serve as an intra-district field trip destination for all the elementary schools in Neptune and will reveal history themes mixed with lessons in sustainable living and care of the environment.”

The 150,000-square-foot, three-story school building incorporates LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) guidelines and features a farm-themed design. Aside from traditional classrooms and academic spaces, the school includes a garden and an open-air amphitheatre at the rear of a cafeteria/auditorium accessible to students and the community alike.

In the design-build approach, the process is accelerated as the construction and design overlap and materials are pre-purchased – saving money and time. Summerfield was designed and constructed within two years. Traditionally, a school design alone takes 12 to 15 months, and construction another 22 months, with building materials obtained throughout the process. Patock Construction Co. worked on the school with EI Associates, Architects and Engineers. SSP Architects served as SCC’s bridging architect and Gilbane was SCC’s project management firm.



Students Take Part in ‘Beam Signing’ at New Catto School in Camden

More than 90 students participated in a “Beam Signing” May 26th to mark the progress of construction of the new Octavius V. Catto Community School – a key component of a state Demonstration Project designed to help revitalize this city’s East Camden neighborhood. Students, teachers, district officials and residents celebrated the milestone by signing a steel beam that will be hoisted into place as a permanent part of the new 122,000-square-foot Catto School at Westfield Avenue and Dudley Street.

The new school will ease overcrowding and provide quality education for 540 pre-kindergarten through 6th grade students. The new school will include several additional classrooms and common areas such as a library/media center, auditorium and gym.

As part of the Demonstration Project, the Camden County Boys & Girls Club will fully fund a new community center with a swimming pool and meeting rooms. The new Boys & Girls Club will be attached to the Catto School and available to students and residents.

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SCC, Elizabeth Educators Break Ground For Juan Pablo Duarte-Jose Julian Marti School

Continuing the momentum of building schools throughout the State, the SCC broke ground May 31st on another new school in Elizabeth - the Juan Pablo Duarte-Jose Julian Marti School No. 28. The ceremony included numerous local and state officials, community and faith-based groups, as well as students. The school will be a pre-K to 8 building and will house 750 students. It will include athletic space, science rooms, music rooms as well as 21st century technology throughout the building. The new school will help address the district's growing student population and provide smaller class sizes to promote a better learning environment for the pupils.

Construction Update

Construction Starts

As of May 31, 2006, the SCC has entered into construction contracts that total \$2,639,167,729 since the inception of the program.

Contractor Procurement

Twelve construction bids impacting 15 schools were advertised in May for projects in Barnegat, Cumberland, Elizabeth, Neptune, Newark, Trenton and Vineland. (Exhibit A) One design bid was advertised in May for a school project in Trenton. (Exhibit B)

School District Grants

In May, the SCC executed 14 Section 15 grants with six districts receiving less than 55% of their funding in state aid. The grants impacted 13 schools in seven counties throughout the State. Total eligible project costs were \$7,039,631, which qualified for a state share totaling \$2,720,141. Several districts received multiple grant awards in May, including Chester Township School District in Morris County, which will receive three grants totaling \$1,610,708 for school projects costing \$4,026,769.

From its inception in 2002 through May 31, 2006, the SCC has executed 2,510 Section 15 grant agreements in all 21 counties with districts that receive less than 55% of their budget in state aid. To date, 1,417 schools in 468 districts have been impacted by the Section 15 grant program. Total project costs amount to \$7,099,565,316 for which the state share totaled \$2,203,054,542.

Office of Contractor And Workforce Compliance

The SCC Office of Contractor and Workforce Compliance is dedicated to increasing the availability and accessibility of construction opportunities for small, women, and minority-owned businesses, and to individuals and their families in New Jersey. In some instances this means working with other State agencies and departments to serve our target population. In others, it is working with our project management firms (PMF) and other internal SCC divisions to encourage business opportunities and equal employment

opportunities in the school construction program. The Office encourages firms that do business with the SCC to support diversity within their ranks and in their hiring. At every opportunity, the Office endeavors to promote the use of New Jersey's diverse business and workforce communities on SCC projects. Further programmatic information is available on the SCC website.



Conferences/Presentations

Groundbreaking Ceremony for Trenton Demonstration Project, 5/3/2006

Gloucester City High School Addition Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony, 5/13/2006

Summerfield Elementary School Dedication, Neptune Township, 5/17/2006

SCC Presentation to the Joint Committee on Public Schools, Trenton, 5/25/2006

Catto Elementary School Beam Signing Ceremony, Camden, 5/26/2006

Garden State Coalition of Schools 15th Annual Breakfast, Monroe Township, 5/31/2006

Kevin McElroy

Attachments

