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Christie Administration Announces Construction of Emergent Repairs at Madison Avenue School in Irvington

TRENTON – Continuing to deliver on Governor Christie's commitment to ensure that all New Jersey students are educated in facilities that foster quality learning, New Jersey Schools Development Authority (SDA) CEO Marc Larkins joined local and district officials to tour the recently started construction for an emergent repair project at the Madison Avenue School in Irvington. More emergent projects have been completed by the Christie Administration than any prior administration.

“The advancement of emergent projects, such as this one, is a vital component to preserving the quality of New Jersey’s educational infrastructure,” said SDA CEO Marc Larkins. “The State’s investment for projects in Irvington, including the Madison Avenue project, represents the Governor’s dedication to the facilities of this community.”

A general construction contract with a not-to-exceed amount of \$247,511 was awarded to Hall Building Corporation of Farmingdale, New Jersey to perform a partial roof replacement, roof repairs and parapet replacement. Built in 1909, the Madison Avenue School (former Mt. Vernon Avenue School) is a 58,200 square foot facility that educates approximately 325 students in kindergarten through fifth grades.

“The State’s emergent project program allows for much-needed repairs in districts like Irvington,” said Irvington Superintendent Dr. Neely Hackett. “The partnership we have with the SDA to complete projects like this will benefit our students for years to come.”

The SDA has invested more than \$100 million in completed projects in Irvington alone, including four capital projects (Mt. Vernon Avenue School, Augusta E.S., and two projects at University Six School), two emergent projects and 23 health and safety/grant projects.

Emergent projects are those deemed necessary in SDA Districts due to potential health and safety issues. The Emergent Project Program provides assistance to SDA District school facilities in need of repair and rehabilitation. Emergent projects include the repair or replacement of roofs, windows, exterior masonry, heating and cooling systems, and plumbing, electrical, mechanical and security systems. Emergent funds are also utilized to address water infiltration issues.

Prior to the Christie Administration, funds available for these projects were nearly exhausted and project review procedures were insufficient making it difficult to prioritize critical projects in a deliberate and cost efficient manner. Depending upon the project’s scope and complexity, the SDA manages many projects identified as emergent, while others are delegated for District management. The Madison Avenue School emergent project is being managed by the SDA.

The SDA’s current portfolio of active projects is valued at over \$2 billion – including the 2011 and 2012 Capital Project portfolios (more than \$1 billion), additional projects in construction (\$100 million), emergent projects (\$50 million) and Regular Operating District grants (\$577 million state share).