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Christie Administration Announces Completion Of Emergent Project At West Side High School In Newark

Trenton, NJ - Continuing Governor Christie's commitment to provide New Jersey's children with safe, modern and efficient schools, the Christie Administration today announced that the Schools Development Authority (SDA) recently completed an emergent project at West Side High School in Newark. The West Side High School, built in 1926, is a 144,000 square foot facility educating 700 students in grades 9 through 12. More emergent projects have been completed by the Christie Administration than by any previous administration.

"The continued partnership between the SDA and Newark Public Schools has resulted in many significant improvements to a number of facilities that address the District's most critical needs," said SDA CEO Marc Larkins. "In addition, SDA has advanced into construction three new school facilities in Newark. All of this activity demonstrates the Christie Administration's commitment to Newark Public Schools and its students which could not have happened without our collaborative partnership with Superintendent Anderson."

The \$51,117 emergent project at West Side High School required the refurbishment of the primary electrical switch gear servicing the main panel for the high school. The work was performed by Grafas Painting Contractors, Inc. of Millburn, NJ.

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, as well as addressing water infiltration issues.

To date, the SDA has invested more than \$544 million in completed projects in Newark alone including ten Capital Projects, nearly a dozen SDA managed Emergent Projects and more than 90 health and safety/grant projects. Additionally, the SDA has three active Capital Projects (Elliott Street Elementary School, Oliver Street Elementary School and South Street Elementary School) and four Emergent Projects in construction representing more than \$120 million in total estimated project costs.

The SDA's current portfolio of active projects is valued at nearly \$2 billion – including the 2011 and 2012 Capital Project portfolios (more than \$1 billion), additional projects in construction (\$55 million), emergent projects (\$100 million) and Regular Operating District grants (\$500 million state share).