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June 19, 2014

Christie Administration Announces Construction of Two Emergent Repairs in Irvington

Trenton, NJ - Following through on Governor Christie's commitment to providing New Jersey's children with safe, modern and efficient schools, the Christie Administration announced today that the Schools Development Authority (SDA) recently began work on two emergent repair projects at the Chancellor Avenue School and Union Avenue Middle School in Irvington, Essex County.

"Last summer, the SDA visited Irvington to view the progress of the emergent repair at the Madison Avenue School", said SDA CEO Charles B. McKenna. "We are pleased to partner with the Irvington Public Schools in the effort to maintain its existing infrastructure. The students and teachers at both the Chancellor Avenue School and Union Avenue Middle School will benefit greatly from the work we are announcing today."

Chancellor Avenue School is a 60,000 square-foot school educating 475 students in the kindergarten through fifth grades. The emergent project at Chancellor Avenue School will replace the roof and flashing over the gym and repair the exterior masonry, window lintels and the roof in other sections of the school. A general construction contract of \$555,490 was awarded to The Bennett Company, Inc. of Passaic, New Jersey.

The emergent project at Union Avenue Middle School will repair or replace approximately 90 window lintels, repair and repoint brick masonry, and replace sections of the roof. Catcord Construction Co., Inc. of Norwood, New Jersey was awarded a general construction contract of \$2.4 million. Union Avenue Middle School is a 135,000 square-foot school educating 670 students in the sixth through eighth grades.

"Irvington Public Schools strives to promote the academic achievement of all students by challenging each student to perform to his/her maximum ability level," said Superintendent Dr. Neely Hackett. "The support we have received from the SDA to make these much-needed repairs will go a long way toward providing the students of Chancellor Avenue School and Union Avenue Middle School with appropriate learning environments."

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, plumbing, electrical, mechanical and security systems, and address water infiltration issues.

To date, the SDA has invested more than \$103 million in completed projects in Irvington. This includes four capital projects and 30 other smaller projects.

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The SDA's current portfolio of active projects is valued at more than \$2 billion – including the Capital Project Portfolio (more than \$1.5 billion), emergent projects (\$100 million) and Regular Operating District grants (\$420 million state share).

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