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Christie Administration Breaks Ground for Two Addition/Renovation Projects in Bridgeton



BRIDGETON, NJ – New Jersey Schools Development Authority (SDA) CEO Charles McKenna joined legislators, local officials, and Bridgeton School District leaders today at a groundbreaking ceremony to celebrate the start of two significant addition/renovation projects at Buckshutem Road School and Quarter Mile Lane School in Bridgeton. Following the groundbreaking ceremony at Quarter Mile Lane School, officials visited the construction site at Buckshutem Road School.

“These addition/renovation projects will effectively eliminate the overcrowding concerns that exist within Bridgeton,” said SDA CEO Charles B. McKenna. “Through our ongoing partnership with the district, we have successfully advanced the most appropriate projects to make a lasting positive impact on the educational opportunities for all of Bridgeton’s students.”

The addition and renovation project to the existing Buckshutem Road School will increase the capacity of the existing school from 404 students to approximately 580 students in kindergarten through eighth grade. The addition will include new classrooms and a gymnasium. Renovation work will include the conversion of the existing gymnasium to a media center and the existing media center to a student services center.

The addition and renovation project to the existing Quarter Mile Lane School will increase the capacity of the existing school from 254 students in kindergarten through eighth grade to approximately 730 students in pre-kindergarten through eighth grade. The addition will include a new three-story classroom wing, new gymnasium, multi-purpose room and cafeteria. Renovation work will include the conversion of the existing cafeteria to a media center and renovations to existing classrooms.

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“I am elated and excited about the expansion of two school facilities which has allowed us an opportunity to reduce the overcrowding that has occurred in all of the schools throughout the Bridgeton School District,” said Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Thomasina Jones. “I am grateful and indebted to the SDA and local politicians who were able to assist us in helping our mission for a state-of-the-art facility come to fruition. I am also grateful to our School Business Administrator, Mrs. Nicole Albanese, and our district’s Facilities Manager, Mr. Tobi Olusa, who worked collaboratively with SDA officials to make our vision of a state-of-the-art facility a reality.”

Ernest Bock and Sons, Inc. of Philadelphia was awarded a \$45,613,770 contract for the design and construction of both addition/renovation projects. Both projects will be constructed utilizing a Design-Build approach. The Design-Build method differs from the traditional approach by allowing for some design and construction activities to proceed concurrently through phased advancement. As part of the design-build contract, Ernest Bock and Sons, Inc. who is working with DMR Architects, PC of Hasbrouck Heights, New Jersey to perform the design. STV Construction, Inc. of New York is the construction manager for the project. The total estimated project costs are \$23.3 million for Buckshutem Road School and \$39 million for Quarter Mile Lane School. Both projects are scheduled for completion before the start of school in September 2017.

The SDA has invested \$35.2 million in completed projects in Bridgeton alone including two Capital projects (Buckshutem Road School and Bridgeton High School) and 11 health and safety/grant/emergent projects.

The SDA’s current portfolio of active projects is valued at \$2 billion – including the Capital Project Portfolio (more than \$1.5 billion), emergent projects (\$100 million) and Regular Operating District grants (\$450 million state share).

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