



For More Information:

Andrea Pasquine – (609) 858-2902

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Christie Administration Announces Construction of Emergent Repairs at Two Schools in West New York



WEST NEW YORK – 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 Charles McKenna joined local and district officials to tour the construction for an emergent repair project at Public School Number 1 in West New York. Officials also discussed the emergent repair project ongoing at Public School Number 5. More emergent projects have been completed by the Christie Administration than any prior administration.

“As New Jersey’s educational infrastructure grows older, buildings around the state will need attention to address conditions affecting water infiltration, as is the case at PS #1 and PS #5 here in West New York,” said SDA CEO Charles B. McKenna. “Through ongoing partnerships with local districts to maintain and upgrade aging schools, buildings will be equipped to educate students for many years to come.”

A general construction contract with a not-to-exceed amount of \$1,409,740 was awarded to TCI Construction & Management Company, Inc. of Farmingdale, New Jersey for an emergent project as P.S. #1. The work involves the repair of damaged and degrading masonry walls along the south elevation and

the cornice of the roofline of the north elevation. Built in 1910, Public School #1 is a 67,000 square-foot facility educating 735 students in pre-kindergarten through sixth grades.

A general construction contract with a not-to-exceed amount of \$1,617,433 was awarded to Grafas Painting Contractors Inc. T/A GPC, Inc. of Millburn, New Jersey for an emergent project at P.S. #5. The work involves the repair of damaged and degrading masonry walls along the west elevation which includes the application of a new water resistant coating to prevent further damage from weather. Built in 1910, Public School #5 is a 73,000 square-foot facility educating 720 students in pre-kindergarten through sixth grades.

“The West New York School District is extremely grateful to both Governor Christie and the SDA for all they have done for this district, not just these two emergent projects but also for the new schools that have been built in our town,” said Superintendent John Fauta. “The support we have received from the State has meant so much to this community because without assistance from the State, we would not have been able to afford these opportunities.”

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 address water infiltration issues and include the repair or replacement of roofs, windows, exterior masonry, heating and cooling systems, plumbing, electrical, mechanical and security systems.

To date, the SDA has invested more than \$180 million in completed projects in West New York alone, including five capital projects (West New York Middle School, Robert Menendez Elementary School #3 and Albio Sires Elementary School #4, Public School #2, acquisition of St. Joseph’s of the Palisades as part of the Memorial High School project), and 10 health and safety/grant/emergent projects.

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 (\$450 million state share). SDA currently has eleven school facilities projects in active construction.

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