



For More Information:
Edye Maier – (609) 858-2909
March 26, 2015

Christie Administration Officials Celebrate Two School Projects in Bridgeton with Beam Signing Events



Students and Officials at Buckshutem Road School

BRIDGETON, NJ – New Jersey Schools Development Authority (SDA) CEO Charles McKenna joined Bridgeton students and local officials for a “beam signing” ceremony to highlight the progress of construction on the addition/renovation projects at Buckshutem Road School and Quarter Mile Lane School. The ceremony celebrated the ongoing construction at these two schools by signing two steel beams that will later be hoisted into place as permanent parts of the new additions.

“We are excited to celebrate the expansion of these schools that will provide a wonderful learning environment for Bridgeton’s students,” said SDA CEO Charles McKenna. “As the students inscribe these beams with their signatures today, I hope that they view this as just the beginning of the exceptional educational opportunities that await them.”

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 grades. The addition, which is anticipated for student occupancy by the end of 2015, will include new classrooms and a gymnasium. Renovation work will then follow including 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 at the existing Quarter Mile Lane School will increase the capacity of the existing school from 254 students in kindergarten through eighth grades to approximately 730

students in pre-kindergarten through eighth grade. The addition, which is anticipated for completion in September 2016, will include a new three-story classroom wing, new gymnasium, multi-purpose room and cafeteria. Renovation work will then follow including the conversion of the existing cafeteria to a media center and renovations to existing classrooms.

“I am ecstatic that our students are participating in the beam signing event because they are the reason why we are here today,” said Bridgeton Superintendent Dr. Thomasina Jones. “I am grateful to the politicians, SDA and Bridgeton staff who dedicated their time, energy and resources to enable the Bridgeton Board of Education to fulfill their mission to enable our students to be educated in state-of-the-art facilities. I look forward to the day when our students will be housed in the new facilities where they will receive high quality education and the keys to unlock the future to a lifetime of success.”

The school projects are being built using the design-build approach. Ernest Bock and Sons, Inc. of Philadelphia is the design-build contractor, working in partnership with DMR Architects of Hasbrouck Heights, New Jersey on the designs. The projects are being managed by STV Construction, Inc. of New York. 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 approximately \$2 billion – including the Capital Project Portfolio, emergent projects and Regular Operating District grants.



Students Signing a Beam at Quarter Mile Lane School

###