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Christie Administration Announces Start of Design-Build Contract for New Middle School in Vineland

TRENTON, NJ – The Christie Administration announced the start of the design phase of the design-build project to build a new Vineland Middle School, another significant project being delivered through the efficient and responsible school construction program managed by the New Jersey Schools Development Authority (SDA).

“The start of this project brings us one step closer to addressing overcrowding in Vineland,” said SDA CEO Charles McKenna. “Delivering a new middle school will provide capacity that will in turn alleviate overcrowding in grades kindergarten through eight while providing a high quality facility that will help Vineland students receive exceptional educational opportunities.”

The new 99,000 square-foot, single story school will be designed to educate approximately 620 students in the sixth through eighth grades. The school will include 19 general classrooms, six self-contained special education classrooms, three small group instruction classrooms, five science classrooms, rooms for support services, a multipurpose room, gymnasium, art room, music room, cafeteria, media center, technology lab, community room and administrative offices.

Ernest Bock & Sons, Inc. of Philadelphia was awarded a \$36.8 million design-build contract and issued a notice to proceed with design on February 16, 2016. As part of its design-build engagement, Ernest Bock & Sons, Inc. will work with SSP Architectural Group, Inc. of Bridgewater, New Jersey on the design. SDA recently issued an advertisement for the procurement of a firm to perform construction management services for the project. More information on that procurement can be found here: <https://www.njsda.gov/njsda/advertisement/ST-0017-M02.pdf>

Utilizing practices that have proven successful, the new Vineland Middle School will be constructed using a design-build approach, with the SDA Kit-of-Parts as its foundation. The design-build method differs from the traditional approach by allowing for some design and construction activities to proceed concurrently through phased advancement. The school will be built on a 40 acre site on Lincoln Avenue that was acquired by the SDA in 2004.

Construction activities are currently forecasted to begin in the fourth quarter of 2016. The building is anticipated for completion prior to the start of school in September 2018. The total estimated SDA project costs for the new school, inclusive of all previous expenditures, are \$49.8 million.

The SDA’s current portfolio of active projects is valued at more than \$2 billion – including the Capital Project Portfolio, emergent projects and Regular Operating District grants. SDA currently has 13 school facilities project in active construction.