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**Schools Development Authority Marks Opening of
New Joseph C. Caruso Elementary School**
School is One of Seven New or Renovated Facilities Opening This September



KEANSBURG, NJ – The New Jersey Schools Development Authority (SDA) celebrated the Keansburg School District's first day of school at the opening of the new Joseph C. Caruso Elementary School, one of seven new or renovated facilities the SDA is opening this week. The Caruso Elementary School is the first new school built by the SDA in Keansburg.

“Joining the Caruso School students and Keansburg officials today for their first day of school is the perfect start to a month that will celebrate the opening of several new schools like this across the state,” said SDA CEO Charles McKenna. “The completion of the first new school in Keansburg built by the SDA highlights this Administration’s commitment to providing state-of-the-art learning centers for students here in Keansburg and throughout the State.”

The new Joseph C. Caruso Elementary School was built on the site where the former 58,000 square-foot school previously stood. The new 122,000 square-foot school provides seats for approximately 840 students in kindergarten through fourth grades. The facility includes 28 general use classrooms, eight kindergarten classrooms, self-contained special education classrooms, a media center, a gymnasium and a cafeteria with stage. Outdoor physical education and play space is located nearby.

“The new Joseph C. Caruso School is a testament to years of hard work and dedication from the Keansburg community,” said Keansburg Superintendent John Niesz. “The Board of Education, elected local, state and federal officials, families, students, teachers and administration worked tirelessly to get this project off the ground. We are Keansburg strong and proud of our new school. Our young learners

will be afforded a wonderful state-of-the-art learning environment along with top-notch faculty, staff and administrators.”

The school was built using the design-build approach. This method differs from the traditional approach in that SDA contracts with one firm for both design and construction of a school facilities project. The design-build method also allows for some design and construction activities to proceed concurrently through phased advancement, an approach that potentially allows for improvement upon the original overall schedule.

The SDA has invested \$57.6 million in completed projects in Keansburg, including \$50.9 million for the new Caruso Elementary School. Hall Construction Company, Inc. of Howell, New Jersey was the design-build contractor working in partnership with Paulus, Sokolowski and Sartor, LLC of Warren, New Jersey on the design. The project was managed by Joseph Jingoli & Sons of Lawrenceville, New Jersey. The SDA is also advancing an addition/renovation project at the Port Monmouth Road School in Keansburg.

In 2016 alone, the SDA will open nine new or renovated school facilities in communities throughout the State. These projects provide nearly 8,500 new seats and represent a state investment of more than \$553 million.

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