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Christie Administration Breaks Ground for New Lincoln Avenue Middle School in Vineland



VINELAND, NJ – New Jersey Schools Development Authority (SDA) CEO Charles McKenna joined Vineland students, school and local officials today to break ground for the new Lincoln Avenue Middle School.

“We are excited to celebrate with the Vineland community as we ceremonially break ground for the new Lincoln Avenue Middle School which will provide this city with much-needed additional capacity,” said SDA CEO Charles McKenna. “Thanks to the Christie Administration’s support of critical infrastructure projects like this and the productive partnership we have with Vineland Public Schools, students will have a new school filled with the tools they need to become life-long learners who make lasting contributions to their community.”

The new Lincoln Avenue Middle School will be a one-story, approximately 99,000 square foot facility designed to accommodate 620 students in grades six through eight. The new school will include 19 general classrooms, five science/project labs, three small group instruction rooms, specialized classrooms, instrumental and vocal music rooms, an art room, a life skills lab, a technology lab, a media center, a multipurpose room with stage, a cafeteria, a gymnasium and athletic fields.

“Over the years, we have received caring support and guidance from many in our quest to provide the children of Vineland with the best educational opportunities available,” said Vineland Superintendent Dr.

Mary Gruccio. “The realization of the Lincoln Avenue Middle School is a culmination of the hard work and consideration of many dedicated community leaders, the Schools Development Authority, District Administrators and Board of Education members. We are forever grateful for the opportunity to build upon facilities which provide Vineland children with the education they need to become productive citizens and the leaders of tomorrow.”

The school is being built using the design-build approach on a site that was acquired by the SDA. The design-build 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.

Ernest Bock & Sons, Inc. of Philadelphia, PA was awarded a \$36.9 million design-build contract for the design and construction of the school. As part of the design-build contract, Ernest Bock & Sons, Inc. is working with SSP Architectural Group of Bridgewater, New Jersey on the design. The project is being managed by Joseph Jingoli & Sons of Lawrenceville. The total estimated project cost is \$49.8 million.

To date, the SDA has invested nearly \$140 million in completed projects in Vineland alone including five capital projects and one demonstration project. Its current portfolio of active projects is valued at approximately \$2 billion – including the Capital Project portfolio, emergent projects and Regular Operating District grants.

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