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## Christie Administration Officials Celebrate School Addition and Renovation Progress with Beam Signing Event



NEW BRUNSWICK, NJ – New Jersey Schools Development Authority (SDA) CEO Charles McKenna joined New Brunswick students and local officials for a "beam signing" ceremony to highlight the progress of construction on the addition and renovation project at the Paul Robeson Community Theme School for the Arts. The ceremony celebrated the ongoing construction of the school by signing the steel beam that will be hoisted into place as a permanent part of the new addition.

"Today's event affords us an opportunity to celebrate the progress of this project with the New Brunswick community, especially with the students who will sign their names to a piece of steel that will support the educational infrastructure that will help them in their efforts to achieve success," said SDA CEO Charles McKenna. "Through the productive partnership we share with the New Brunswick School District, state and local officials and our construction partners, we are on schedule to have students in their much larger and almost-like-new building by September 2018."

The 60,000 square-foot, 3-story addition will include a new multi-purpose room, 30 additional classrooms, four small instruction rooms, and two Basic Skills/ESL classrooms. The 59,400 square-foot existing school also is being renovated. This work includes the introduction of a fire sprinkler system and the renovation/rearrangement of spaces including the school's food service area, media center,

classrooms, nurse's office, main office and student services suite. The school is anticipated for student occupancy in September 2018.

"It's essential that we add capacity to New Brunswick's expanding school community, and this beamsigning event marks yet another significant step in that direction," said Dr. Aubrey Johnson, superintendent, New Brunswick Public Schools. "Our state's Schools Development Authority is doing a terrific job on this two-year expansion of our Paul Robeson Community Theme School for the Arts. We're extremely appreciative and very much looking forward to utilizing the finished product."

The project is being built using the design-build approach. This method differs from the traditional approach in that it enables the SDA to contract 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.

Hall Construction Company, Inc. of Farmingdale, New Jersey was awarded a \$32 million design-build contract for the design and construction of the project. As part of the design-build contract, Hall Construction Company, Inc. will work with Paulus, Sokolowski & Sartor Engineering, PC of Warren, New Jersey to perform the design. GREYHAWK North America, LLC of Mount Laurel, New Jersey is the construction manager for the project. The total estimated project costs are \$47 million.

To date, the SDA has invested \$270 million in completed projects in New Brunswick alone including four capital projects. 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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