

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Edye Maier (609) 218-2539

**SCHOOLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY CELEBRATES CONSTRUCTION MILESTONE WITH
BEAM SIGNING EVENT FOR NEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN ELIZABETH**



ELIZABETH – The New Jersey Schools Development Authority (SDA) joined Elizabeth Public Schools, State, and local officials today at a ceremonial beam signing for the new Joseph Battin School No. 4 in Elizabeth. This event highlights the construction progress of the new school, with the three-story steel structure nearly complete.

“Today marks an exciting milestone as we work to bring a rendering to reality,” **said SDA CEO Manuel Da Silva.** “A strong education builds the foundation of future success and this steel structure mirrors the strength of the education that Elizabeth students will receive in this new school. Partnership builds the foundation from which great things rise and we are thankful for the ongoing collaboration we share with our school district, state, local, and contracting partners on this project and share in the excitement for another new school facility in this community.”

“The beam we have signed today is a symbol of an exciting future for both Elizabeth Public Schools and the Joseph Battin School No. 4 learning community,” **said EPS Superintendent Dr. Olga Hugelmeyer.** “It will provide the strength and support for another state-of-the-art school facility made possible through our wonderful partnership with the New Jersey School Development Authority. We once again thank the NJSDA for their commitment to the Elizabeth community that has resulted in a dozen new school facilities over the past couple

decades. The original Joseph Battin School No. 4 had educated students for more than 100 years and we look forward to this new school being the home of the next century of School No. 4 students, beginning with those participating in today's signing who will be among the first group of students to walk through the doors when the new School No. 4 opens and among its first graduating class."

The 17-foot steel beam signed today will later be lifted into place as part of the school's permanent steel structure and a reminder of the collective commitment to the education of Elizabeth students. The beam will be placed in the first-floor storage and maintenance area.

The new school will be an approximately 146,000 square-foot facility designed to educate up to 1,068 students in prekindergarten through eighth grade. In addition to classrooms, the school will include a vocal music room, an instrumental lesson room, an art room with a kiln, three science labs, a media center, a cafeteria, a multi-purpose room, and a gymnasium.

Terminal Construction Corporation is the design-build contractor for the project. As part of the design-build contract, Terminal Construction Corporation is working with DMR Architects, Inc., on the design. Accenture Infrastructure and Capital Projects, LLC, is managing the project.

Once complete, this \$101.5 million school will be the fifteenth capital project completed by the SDA in Elizabeth since the inception of the school construction program. The SDA previously invested more than \$494 million in completed projects in Elizabeth.

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About the New Jersey Schools Development Authority

The SDA is the State agency responsible for fully funding and managing the new construction, modernization and renovation of school facilities projects in 31 SDA Districts. Its current portfolio of active projects is valued at approximately \$2 billion – including the Capital Project portfolio, emergent projects and Regular Operating District grants. Since the program's inception, the SDA has provided funding for and management oversight of 900 completed school facilities projects in SDA Districts and has executed more than 5,400 grants for Regular Operating Districts throughout the State of New Jersey. For more information about the SDA, please visit our website at: www.njsda.gov or follow us on social media at: [Facebook](#); [Instagram](#); [LinkedIn](#); or [Twitter](#).