



STATE OF NEW JERSEY

SCHOOLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Building Schools, Building Communities, Building Opportunities

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Message from CEO Marc Larkins



The Christie Administration continues a strong commitment to providing children throughout New Jersey with educational facilities that meet their needs, use our resources efficiently and contribute to improving NJ's economy. To that end, SDA continues to work diligently to advance projects announced as part of the [2011](#) and [2012](#) Project Portfolios as seen by our increasing activity over the past few months. We have recently completed the early site preparation activities for a new Elizabeth High School and advertised for the construction of this school. In Keansburg, a VFW building has been demolished and we are readying the Caruso Elementary school for demolition this coming fall. Awards were also recently approved by the Board for construction of Catrambone Elementary School in Long Branch, an early site package for PS #20 in Jersey City, demolition of PS #16 in Paterson and demolition of the former Warminster Building in West New York. In addition, staff is working to ready an advertisement package for the long-awaited Phillipsburg H.S.

In addition to providing replacement schools, SDA is also dedicated to supporting critical emergent projects in SDA districts, through the rehabilitation and repair of existing facilities. In the past few months, SDA has delegated eight emergent projects to Camden (1), Garfield (2), Gloucester City (2), Jersey City (1) and Newark (2) for district management. SDA staff is currently scoping many additional emergent projects for advancement through SDA-management, including two that were recently put out to bid. Our Regular Operating District Grant Program continues to infuse much needed matching funds into all schools across the state with 863 grants executed totaling a \$271.1 million state investment as of August 1, 2012.

Recently, I had an opportunity to appear before the Members of the Joint Committee on the Public Schools, Subcommittee on School Facilities and Construction to update them on the status of the school construction program. We welcome chances like that to discuss recent activities of the SDA and highlight the work outlined in the most recent [Biannual Report](#).

We look forward to continued collaboration with all of our stakeholders to guarantee the continued success of the school construction program so that students throughout the State will be provided with the learning environments they need.

Elizabeth High School Groundbreaking Ceremony

SDA CEO Marc Larkins and Elizabeth School District officials participated in a groundbreaking ceremony on May 16 for the new Elizabeth High School. The groundbreaking marks the first school



from the 2011 Capital Portfolio to advance into construction following Governor Christie's implementation of critical reforms at the Schools Development Authority. The groundbreaking ceremony marked the commencement of the first phase of two phases of work to construct the new high school.

The 183,822 square-foot, four-story facility, designed to educate nearly 1,100 students, will be constructed on a 1.54 acre site adjacent to the existing Jefferson High School. The new facility will contain 36 regular education classrooms, eight science

labs, eight small group instruction classrooms, five self-contained special education classrooms, an auditorium, cafeteria and full service kitchen, a gymnasium with lockers and showers as well as an auxiliary gymnasium and a media center. The facility also will include specialized rooms such as a health and fitness suite, photo lab with dark room, student activity center, CAD (computer aided drafting) classroom, engineering and robotics room, international marketplace room, law and forensic science room, choral room, band room, MIDI (musical instrument digital interface) classroom, computer science classroom, three teacher workrooms, administrative offices and a nurse's suite.

SDA Issues Advertisement for A. Chester Redshaw Elementary School

On May 30, SDA issued an [advertisement](#) for design and construction of the long awaited, new A. Chester Redshaw Elementary School in New Brunswick. The original school was demolished in 2005 and the Redshaw students have been educated in a temporary facility since. The construction of the new school will utilize the long-vacant site on Livingston Avenue between Comstock and Delavan Streets where the school formerly stood.



The A. Chester Redshaw Elementary School will be constructed using a design-build approach, which differs from the traditional approach toward bidding projects by allowing the SDA to contract with one firm for both design and construction of school facilities projects. Because design-build allows for some design and construction activities to proceed concurrently through phased advancement, it is considered by some to be more efficient than the traditional approach of design-bid-build.

Equally important, the school will be built using the SDA's recently implemented Kit of Parts. The Kit of Parts approach provides a prototypical school design, comprised of standardized core component

elements, which can be rearranged to respond to site conditions. This approach will allow for the SDA to provide quality educational facilities more cost effectively, reduce the time and expense required for design of SDA school facilities and serve as a first step toward higher levels of design standardization.

Recent and Upcoming Capital Program Project Activity

The following projects were recently advertised:

- Elizabeth – Elizabeth High School Construction Phase 2
- Jersey City – ES #3 Early Site Preparation
- New Brunswick – A. Chester Redshaw Elementary School Design-build
- Newark – Oliver Street Elementary School Early Site Preparation
- Paterson – Marshall Street Elementary School Early Site Preparation

The following projects were recently awarded:

- Jersey City – PS #20 Early Site Preparation
- Long Branch – Catrambone Elementary School Construction
- Paterson – PS #16 Demolition
- West New York – Demolition of the former Warminster Building (part of the Harry L. Bain project)

The following project is expected to advance in Quarter 3 of 2012:

- Phillipsburg – High School Construction Advertisement

SDA Cost Recovery Efforts Results in More Than \$1.8 Million

Committed to ensuring that those responsible for cost overruns, environmental issues and errors and omissions on SDA projects are held accountable, the SDA has instituted an aggressive cost recovery effort under the Christie Administration. Recently the SDA, in cooperation with the Office of the Attorney General, Division of Law, has received more than \$1.8 million through settlements across three separate environmental remediation matters. The first matter was settled following a formal mediation through the New Jersey Office of Dispute Settlement. The Estate of Alan Zelinger, Ethical Products, Inc., Bell Construction, Inc. and Coca-Cola Refreshments USA, Inc. agreed to pay the SDA \$800,000 for costs associated with the environmental remediation of a property acquired for the construction of the First Avenue Elementary School in Newark.

After a judgment in favor of the SDA in February 2010, the second matter reached final settlement with Getty Petroleum Marketing, Inc. and Power Test Realty Company, L.P., in April 2012 while on appeal. SDA recovered \$483,535 in the settlement and a total of \$863,207 overall for costs associated with the cleanup of a property acquired for the Ronald Reagan Leadership Academy School Number 30 in Elizabeth.

Finally, SDA reached a settlement agreement with Shadrall Associates to recover \$561,924 for environmental remediation activities related to a property acquired for the construction of Public School Number 20 in Jersey City. Since the beginning of the Christie Administration, more than \$11 million has been recovered through the SDA cost recovery program. All funds recovered go toward the construction of future projects in SDA districts.

SDA Completes Second SMWBE Contractor Training Program

In June, twelve Small, Minority and Women-owned Business Enterprises (SMWBE) throughout the State of New Jersey successfully completed the SDA sponsored 2012 SMWBE Contractor Training Program. The culmination of this year's program marks the second time the SDA has successfully held the in-house program utilizing SDA staff and other industry professionals. Twenty-eight firms have successfully completed the SDA's SMWBE Contractor Training Program over the past two years.



The SMWBE Contractor Training Program is designed to provide SMWBEs in New Jersey with valuable insight on how to do business with the SDA and provide these firms with the tools necessary to successfully compete for SDA construction projects. The program is comprised of seminars conducted by SDA personnel and industry professionals and assists graduating firms in taking the steps necessary to become SDA prequalified, a requirement to do business with SDA. Please visit our website for more information about the SMWBE Contractor Training Program and other small business programs and opportunities at <http://njsda.gov/Business/Compliance/SBE.html>.

ROD Grant Program Update

The SDA continues to execute Regular Operating District (ROD) grants impacting hundreds of districts around the state. The state-grant program funds at least 40 percent of eligible costs for projects in the RODs, addressing health and safety issues, student overcrowding and other critical needs.

Since the resumption of the grant program in May 2010, the SDA has executed 863 grants providing over \$271.1 million to local districts and leveraging projects estimated at a total of more than \$630.4 million as of August 1, 2012. This includes recent grant executions such as Roselle Borough which received 15 grants totaling more than \$4.4 million, Mahwah Township which received three grants totaling \$558,811, Greater Egg Harbor Regional High School District which received five grants more than \$8.1 million and Pennsville Township which received a state grant totaling \$589,340. For a full listing of ROD Grant projects, click [here](#).

For more information please visit our website at www.njsda.gov or call 609.341.5900

To contact the SDA, please email the Authority at CustomerService@njsda.gov