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## **NJSDA, CAMDEN EDUCATORS CELEBRATE OPENING OF MORGAN VILLAGE/CREATIVE ARTS ACADEMY**

CAMDEN - New Jersey Schools Development Authority (SDA) and Camden Public School District officials held a ribbon-cutting ceremony today to formally open the new Morgan Village/Creative Arts Academy, which will provide 21st century educational opportunities for 520 students in grades six through eight.

Students, teachers, parents, area officials and community leaders were on hand to celebrate Camden's newest SDA-completed project. Morgan Village/Creative Arts Academy is the fifth new school completed in Camden through New Jersey's school construction program.

Other completed school construction projects in Camden include the Camden Early Childhood Center, H.B. Wilson Elementary School and Thomas H. Dudley Elementary School which opened in 2009 and the Octavius V. Catto Community School that opened in 2007.

The new Morgan Village/Creative Arts Academy replaces Morgan Village Middle School which was originally built in 1969. Morgan Village Middle School will be demolished in order to build play areas and green space as well as accommodate parking needs for the new school.

The new 92,390 square foot school features general use classrooms, special education classrooms, science labs, school-to-career classrooms with labs, small group instruction rooms, media center, auditorium, gymnasium and cafeteria with kitchen.

"In Camden, we are preparing young minds for success, not just for today, but a lifetime," said Camden City Public Schools Superintendent, Dr. B. LeFra Young.

The project was designed by Fletcher Thompson Architecture Engineering and built by Chanree Construction Company, Inc. URS Corporation and SDA managed the project.

In time for the 2011 School year, the SDA has also completed two capital projects - the Egg Harbor Township High School and the Pemberton Early Childhood Center. The SDAs ongoing portfolio includes 3 additional new schools currently in construction, the advancement of 10 Major Capital Projects and more than 50 SDA-managed and district-delegated emergent projects. Additionally, the ongoing portfolio includes hundreds of grant projects in Regular Operating Districts.

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