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November 18, 2013

Christie Administration Announces Design-Build Contract Award for Addition/Alteration Projects to Buckshutem Road and Quarter Mile Lane Elementary Schools in Bridgeton

TRENTON, NJ – Continuing efforts to ensure educational excellence for all New Jersey students, the Christie Administration today announced the award of the Design-Build contract and the advancement of the design phase for the addition and alteration projects at both the Buckshutem Road and Quarter Mile Lane Elementary Schools. While the Schools Development Authority (SDA) has used the Design-Build approach successfully in connection with new construction, these two projects will be the first addition and alteration projects advanced by SDA using this approach.

“Today’s announcement continues the Christie Administration’s actions to provide state of the art schools for New Jersey’s school children,” said SDA CEO Marc Larkins. “These two projects in Bridgeton will advance a creative comprehensive plan to improve the educational space for hundreds of students across the district.”

The Buckshutem Road Elementary School project will include the construction of an approximately 33,700 square-foot one-story addition complete with new classrooms, science labs, an art room, a gymnasium and locker rooms. SDA will also renovate 7,300 square feet of the existing building, including conversion of the existing gymnasium to a media center and conversion of the existing media center to student services offices. This project will provide more than 175 additional new seats, increasing the capacity of the existing facility to 581 students in Kindergarten through eighth grades.

The Quarter Mile Lane Elementary School project includes construction of an approximately 90,000 square-foot addition comprised of a three-story classroom wing, a multi-purpose room, cafeteria and kitchen, a gymnasium and locker rooms. The existing facility will be renovated to provide Prekindergarten classrooms, offices, and other support facilities. This significant addition will provide more than 475 additional new seats, increasing the school’s capacity to 731 students in Pre-Kindergarten through eighth grades.

Ernest Bock & Sons, Inc. of Philadelphia, PA was awarded a \$45.6 million Design-Build contract in October 2013, for the design and construction of both projects. As part of the Design-Build contract, Ernest Bock & Sons will work with DMR Architects, PC of Hasbrouck Heights on the design. A Construction Management firm will manage the construction phases of the Buckshutem Road and Quarter Mile Lane Elementary Schools projects. CM services are currently being procured.

The Buckshutem Road and Quarter Mile Lane Elementary School projects were selected for advancement as part of the 2011 Capital Project Portfolio. The SDA has invested nearly \$34.9 million in completed projects in Bridgeton alone including two Capital projects and 10 health and safety/grant projects.

The SDA's current portfolio of active projects is valued at nearly \$2 billion – including the 2011 and 2012 Capital Project portfolios (more than \$1 billion), additional projects in construction (\$55 million), emergent projects (\$100 million) and Regular Operating District grants (\$500 million state share).

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