



For More Information:

Edye Maier – (609) 858-2909

December 16, 2014



Christie Administration Breaks Ground for New Caruso Elementary School in Keansburg

KEANSBURG, NJ – New Jersey Schools Development Authority (SDA) CEO Charles McKenna joined legislators, local officials, and Keansburg School District leaders today to break ground on the future new Joseph C. Caruso Elementary School. This building will be the first new school in Keansburg built by the SDA.

“I am pleased to be here today to celebrate the start of the first SDA-built school in the Keansburg community,” said SDA CEO Charles B. McKenna. “With a dozen schools in construction statewide, the Christie Administration is making a lasting impact on the education of thousands of students, including those here in Keansburg.”

The new 122,000 square-foot school is designed to educate approximately 750 students in kindergarten through fourth grades. The facility will include 28 general use classrooms, eight kindergarten classrooms, self-contained special education classrooms, a media center, a gymnasium and a cafetorium. The school is anticipated for student occupancy in September 2016.

“This is a very exciting time for the Keansburg School District, and the entire community,” said Keansburg Superintendent Gerald North. “The opportunity to provide our students with an education in a 21st century facility will strengthen their educational foundation further opening the doors to successfully compete in a global society.”

The new school is being built on the site where the former 58,000 square-foot Joseph C. Caruso Elementary School previously stood. During the demolition of the former school, a 91 year-old time capsule was discovered. The time capsule included a variety of items including six “one cent” coins dating back to the early 1800’s, a copy of *The Keansburg Beacon* dated December 15, 1921, a few photos and a program from the Dedication Ceremony at which the time capsule was placed in the cornerstone.

Additional property located near the school was also acquired by the SDA to provide for outdoor physical education and play space.

Hall Construction Company, Inc. of Howell, New Jersey was awarded a \$34.3 million contract for design and construction of the new school. The school will be built utilizing a Design-Build approach. As part of the design-build contract, Hall Construction Company, Inc. is working with Paulus, Sokolowski and Sartor, LLC of Warren, New Jersey on the design. Joseph Jingoli & Sons of Lawrenceville, New Jersey is the construction manager for the project. The total estimated project costs are \$50.9 million.

The SDA is also advancing a project at the Port Monmouth Road School in Keansburg. The SDA previously invested \$6.7 million in completed projects in Keansburg for 10 health and safety and emergent projects.

The SDA's current portfolio of active projects is valued at approximately \$2 billion – including the Capital Project Portfolio, emergent projects, and Regular Operating District grants.

###