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## Lt. Governor Guadagno Welcomes Students to Passaic Gifted and Talented Academy

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### ***\$55 Million SDA Project Will Host District Magnet Program***

**Trenton, NJ** – Today, Lt. Governor Kim Guadagno joined New Jersey Schools Development Authority (SDA) CEO Charles McKenna, Passaic City School District leaders and students, and state and local officials to celebrate the opening of the new Passaic Gifted and Talented Academy.

"This new school represents what we want for our students – a facility that will provide the spaces needed to develop our students and provide access to resources that will enhance their knowledge, creativity and talents," said Lt. Governor Guadagno. "With the completion of this \$55 million school, and another 12 projects in construction throughout the State, this Administration is getting it done."

The 115,000-square-foot facility will enroll 780 students in grades two through eight. The school includes a three-story Academic/Administrative wing and a two-story wing with a cafetorium, gymnasium, and specialized classrooms. The school has a media center, computer-aided design lab, video lab, instrumental and vocal music rooms, a dance studio with a stage, and art rooms, including one with a kiln. The school houses the District's Magnet program with a focus on Academics, Performing Arts, Physical Education, and Visual Arts.

"The completion of this new school is the first of three projects that will be completed over the next six or seven years to address the overcrowding needs that exist in Passaic City with seats for more than 4,000 students," said Mr. McKenna. "This is a great day for the Passaic City community and I look forward to sharing more days like this in the next few years."

The SDA has invested \$197 million toward completed projects in Passaic City, including \$55 million for the Passaic Gifted and Talented Academy. Dobco, Inc. of Wayne, New Jersey was the design-build contractor responsible for the design and construction of the new school. As part of the design-build contract, Dobco, Inc. collaborated with DiCara/Rubino Architects of Wayne, New Jersey on the design. The SDA self-managed the project.

The SDA's current portfolio of active projects is valued at more than \$2 billion, which includes the Capital Project Portfolio, emergent projects and Regular Operating District grants. The SDA currently has twelve school facilities projects in active construction throughout the state.

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