

## **OEA SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION GRANTS APPROVED**

**Tuesday, December 11, 2012**

On December 11, 2012, the Department of Defense announced the latest school construction grants from the Office of Economic Adjustment (OEA): \$35,247,240 to Geary County Unified School District # 475, to replace the Fort Riley Middle School on Fort Riley, Kansas; \$18,070,606 to Vernon Parish School Board to replace South Fort Polk Elementary School on Fort Polk, Louisiana; and \$57,161,689 to Sierra Sands Unified School District for two grants to replace Murray Middle School, and to expand Burroughs High School, on Naval Air Weapons Station, China Lake, California.

Previously, on September 14, 2012, OEA awarded a school construction grant of \$37,134,368 to Lawton Public Schools to replace the Sheridan Road and Geronimo Road Elementary Schools on Fort Sill, Oklahoma with a single new school. On June 25, 2012, OEA awarded two grants totaling \$46,485,468 to the Clover Park School District, Lakewood, Washington, to replace two elementary schools on Joint Base Lewis-McChord, and on May 14, 2012, OEA awarded a grant of \$13,215,233 to El Paso Independent School District, El Paso, Texas to replace an aging school on Fort Bliss.

These awards will remedy the capacity and/or facility condition deficiencies that placed these schools on the July 2011 Deputy Secretary of Defense “Public Schools on Military Installations Priority List” (Priority List).

The funding is from a \$500 million program authorized by Section 8109 of Public Law 112-10, the DoD and Full-Year Continuing Appropriations Act, 2011, and Section 8118 of Public Law 112-74, the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2012, to construct, renovate, repair or expand public schools located on military installations. OEA, in making these funds available, must give priority consideration to those military installations with schools having the most serious capacity or facility condition deficiencies, as determined by the July 2011 Deputy Secretary of Defense Priority List.

A multi-disciplined Federal Evaluation Team, with membership from the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness, the Military Services, U.S. Department of Education, and the Office of Economic Adjustment, conducted a review of these projects to ensure these awards were appropriate for the noted capacity and facility deficiencies.

**\$35.2M Grant awarded on December 10, 2012, to Geary County Unified School District # 475, Junction City, Kansas – Fort Riley** - Geary County Unified School District # 475 will manage a \$41,961,000 project, consisting of \$35,247,240 grant funds and a non-Federal share of \$6,713,760 from the school district, to demolish and replace the existing Fort Riley Middle School with a new 720-student middle school on Fort Riley serving grades six through eight. This award will remedy capacity and facility condition deficiencies that placed Fort Riley Middle School as the seventh school on the July 2011 Deputy Secretary of Defense “Public Schools on Military Installations Priority List” (Priority List). Geary County Unified School District # 475 currently leases land from the Army for its Fort Riley schools, and will own,

operate, and maintain the newly constructed school. This well-established relationship will help to ensure the success of the project.

**\$18M Grant awarded on December 10, 2012, to Vernon Parish School District , Leesville, Louisiana – Fort Polk -** Vernon Parish School District will manage a \$21,144,931 project, consisting of \$18,070,606 grant funds and a non-Federal share of \$3,074,325, to replace the existing South Fort Polk Elementary School with a new 875-student school on Fort Polk serving grades one through four. This award will remedy capacity and facility condition deficiencies that placed South Fort Polk Elementary School as the sixth school on the July 2011 Deputy Secretary of Defense “Public Schools on Military Installations Priority List” (Priority List). Vernon Parish School District, through a long-established relationship, leases land from the Army for its Fort Polk schools, and will own, operate, and maintain the newly constructed school.

**\$57.1M – Two Grants awarded on December 10, 2012, to Sierra Sands Unified School District, Ridgecrest, California – Naval Air Weapons Station (NAWS) China Lake**

1. **A \$31,634,270 Grant** with a non-Federal share of \$7,908,568, for a total 39,542,838 project to demolish and replace the existing Murray Middle School with a new 610-student school serving grades six through eight; and
2. **A \$25,527,419 Grant** with a non-Federal share of \$6,381,855, for a total \$31,909,274 project to renovate and expand the existing 1,461-student Burroughs High School serving grades nine through twelve.

Both schools are located on NAWS China Lake. These awards will remedy capacity and facility condition deficiencies that placed Murray Middle School as the fourth school, and Burroughs High School as the tenth school, on the July 2011 Deputy Secretary of Defense “Public Schools on Military Installations Priority List” (Priority List). Sierra Sands Unified School District currently leases land from the Navy for its NAWS China Lake schools, and will own, operate, and maintain the newly constructed school..

**\$37.1M Grant awarded on September 14, 2012, to Lawton Public Schools, Fort Sill, Oklahoma** – Lawton public Schools will manage a \$45,215,368 project, consisting of \$37,134,368 grant funds, and a non-Federal share of \$8,081,000 from the school district, to demolish Sheridan Road and Geronimo Road Elementary Schools and replace them with a single new 1400-student Freedom Elementary School on Fort Sill. This award will remedy capacity and facility condition deficiencies that placed Sheridan Road and Geronimo Road Elementary Schools as the third and twelfth schools on the July 2011 Deputy Secretary of Priority List. Lawton Public Schools currently leases land from the Army for its Fort Sill schools, and will own, operate, and maintain the newly constructed school. Groundbreaking for the new school may commence once all environmental requirements have been met.

**\$46.4M – Two Grants awarded on June 25, 2012, to Clover Park School District (CPSD), Joint Base Lewis-McChord (JBLM), Washington**

1. A **\$22,457,440 Grant** with a non-Federal share of \$10,490,527 from the State of Washington, for a total \$32,947,967 project to demolish and replace the existing Hillside Elementary School with a new 650-student school; and
2. A **\$24,028,028 Grant** with a non-Federal share of \$7,118,527 from the State of Washington, for a total \$31,146,555 project to demolish and replace the existing Carter Lake Elementary School with a new 500-student school.

The CPSD awards will remedy capacity and facility condition deficiencies that placed Hillside Elementary and Carter Lake Elementary Schools as the second and fifth schools on the July 2011 Deputy Secretary of Defense Priority List. CPSD currently leases land from JBLM for the schools. CPSD will construct the new schools in coordination with the Washington State Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction and the Garrison at JBLM, and will then own, operate, and maintain the newly constructed schools.

**\$13.2M Grant awarded on May 14, 2012, to the El Paso Independent School District (EPISD), Fort Bliss, Texas** - EPISD is matching this \$13,215,233 grant, with \$3,304,000 in non-federal funds, and will manage a \$16,519,233 project to renovate portions of the existing Logan Elementary School and expand with new construction to provide for 833 elementary school students grades pre-K through 5. This award will remedy capacity and facility condition deficiencies that placed Logan Elementary School as the first school on the July 2011 Deputy Secretary of Defense Priority List. EPISD currently leases land from the Army for the school, and will own, operate, and maintain the newly constructed school. This project anticipates continued close coordination between EPISD, the Garrison at Fort Bliss, and State of Texas.