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Diggs Construction completes SMSA project in Hartford

October 15, 2008 - Connecticut

Officials from Sport & Medical Sciences Academy (SMSA) and the City of Hartford attended the ribbon cutting ceremony for SMSA recently.

The 158,000 s/f building became home to 725 students when it officially opened on August 25th for the 2008-2009 school year. Designed by DuBose Associates Architects, the \$71 million project is considered a major success.

"With the help of the construction manager and architect, SMSA is a landmark project completed under budget while exceeding most of its program goals," said Joe DeSanti of Diggs Construction, program director of the school construction program. The project will likely be \$2-3 million under budget. Forty-three percent of the workforce were women and minorities and 30% of the workforce were Hartford residents.

The theme of this magnet school is to interest students in pursuing higher education to study all fields related to sports: medicine, physiology, psychology, broadcasting, management, research, nutrition and fitness. The school is part of the city's improvement plan to raise the bar academically for all 24,000 students.

New England Real Estate Journal - 17 Accord Park Drive #207, Norwell MA 02061 - (781) 878-4540