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**Skanska Breaks Ground at Environmentally Conscious Elementary School**

Skanska USA Building Inc. announced that construction crews recently broke ground at Sue Buel Elementary School in McMinnville, Ore., the new K-5 school that will replace Cook Elementary School, which was built in 1929. McMinnville School District received a \$50,000 state grant for energy-efficient design and will seek LEED® (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Silver certification.

"Our new elementary school will feature energy-efficient design and construction," said McMinnville School District Superintendent Maryalice Russell. "We are very pleased to have Skanska leading this project because of its vast experience and expertise in building energy-efficient schools in a cost-effective and timely manner."

When completed, the Sue Buel Elementary School will be a two-story, 81,000-square-foot building that will accommodate 600 students with 28 classrooms, a music room, gymnasium and outdoor covered play area. Construction of the building will focus on multiple "green" elements in order to preserve energy and other natural resources.

"The district's strong commitment to energy-efficiency and sustainability is astounding," said Skanska Project Manager Ryan Percell. "We were given several unique options for making this school a highly efficient and functional facility; we will certainly be proud to hand over the keys in time for the beginning of the next school year."

Once completed, the school will apply for LEED Silver certification. Some of the environmentally friendly highlights will be seen in the basic design and layout of the new building in addition to specialty systems that will be integrated into each classroom. The orientation of the school will be east-facing in order to utilize natural sunlight instead of using power all the time for classroom lighting. The new building will also be designed with a unique HVAC system that will allow each classroom to disconnect from the central system and operate off free airflow.

The new school was designed in an "H" pattern that will allow for better sectionalizing of key areas such as classrooms and other student-occupied areas. The layout will place potential public gathering spots,

such as the cafeteria and the gymnasium, in open areas that will allow for better security while still maintaining a sense of local community at the school.

The new school is scheduled to open in September, 2008 and has been named for the longtime local education advocate, Sue Buel.

Skanska USA Building Inc. is a leading national and local provider of construction, pre-construction consulting, general contracting and design-build services to a broad range of U.S. industries including life sciences, healthcare, education, high-tech, aviation, transportation and sports and entertainment. Skanska USA Building also provides pharmaceutical validation services to clients. The company, part of the Skanska AB global group of companies, is headquartered in Parsippany, New Jersey, and has approximately 3,800 employees.

Skanska is one of the world's leading construction groups with expertise in construction, development of commercial and residential projects and public-private partnerships. The Group currently has 56,000 employees in selected home markets in Europe, in the U.S. and Latin America. Headquartered in Stockholm, Sweden and listed on the Stockholm Stock Exchange, Skanska's sales in 2006 totaled \$17 billion.

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