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Ground Breaking at South Adams is Indiana's First Design Build School Project

Berne, Indiana (3/31/2008) – The South Adams Building Project will celebrate groundbreaking on Monday, March 31st with representative members of the kindergarten class of 2009-2010 to move the first dirt. The South Adams project includes a new pre-K through 8th grade school building as well as renovation of the high school and will be the first public school in Indiana to make use of the design build statute.

Cathy Egolf, Superintendent, said, "The team worked hard to achieve a balance of quality with the most cost effective solution possible. We are very excited about the design and believe this will provide the best possible campus for our kids from pre-K through high school graduation." Cathy added, "The design takes full advantage of the space within the existing high school and makes possible a highly functional building with fewer square feet which means lower operating costs for the life of the building." Integrating new digital technology was also a design priority. The South Adams building will provide a high speed network with video surveillance, classroom media and classroom AV. The intercom will also be accessible via the network to provide multiple communication options.

Tim Thoman, President of Performance Services, the design builder for the project said, "Producing this design took listening, feedback, and collaboration from all team members in finding the best solution to fit the South Adams budget and delivering a high quality and energy efficient building that will last for generations. We are proud of the design developed and look forward to the opportunity of delivering it to South Adams Schools over the next 16 months." The new structure is also designed to create an optimal learning environment which is defined to include measurable standards around natural day lighting, indoor air quality monitoring and control, and lighting levels. The school design also positions South Adams to potentially qualify as a distinguished Energy Star school after a 12-month operating period.

Joining the design build team are CSO Architects, LEED accredited team members, Durkin & Villalta Partners Engineering, RL Turner general contractors, and ESCO, a premiere designer and provider of technology to Indiana Schools. Local partners include Limberlost Construction, Berne Ready Mix and Don Myers Plumbing for work on the project. Tim added, "We are delighted to have local representation on the team and feel that local contractors and taxpayers working on the facility will provide an added level of pride and ownership to the project."

Performance Services is an Indiana-based design build company that specializes in new construction and renovating schools to deliver optimal learning environments through both the Guaranteed Savings Contract and Design-Build procurement methods. Beyond innovative design and high quality, Performance Services provides an optimal learning environment that is measured and reported after project completion. The company has provided energy solutions to K-12 schools for 10 years and is the leading provider of guaranteed energy savings projects and ENERGY STAR rated schools in Indiana.

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