



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NYC School Construction Authority Breaks Ground on New Northern Blvd. High School in Queens

3,066-Seat High School, SCA's Largest Project to Date, will open in September 2025

WOODSIDE, NY— New York City School Construction Authority (SCA) President and CEO Nina Kubota was joined today by Schools Chancellor Meisha Porter, elected officials, and community members to celebrate the start of construction of the state-of-the-art, 3,066-seat Northern Boulevard High School in Woodside. The new facility, the largest ever constructed by the SCA, is the centerpiece of the SCA and DOE's commitment to address overcrowding in Queens high schools by bringing nearly 6,200 new high school seats to the borough by 2026.

The new, 6-story school building will be a fully air-conditioned, accessible facility and will contain 94 regular classrooms, six resource rooms, a 550-seat auditorium, a library, a full kitchen complex with two student dining areas, and a competition-size gymnasium with bleachers and locker rooms.

"This school represents our mission to invest in New York City's future, continuing to create the school buildings that our students need and deserve while also continuing to fulfill the Mayor's commitment to reduce overcrowding and increase diversity," said **Nina Kubota, President and Chief Executive Officer of the New York City School Construction Authority**. "Today's groundbreaking marks the next step in bringing thousands of new seats to Queens working with all of our partners to provide the infrastructure critical to the success of our students."

Schools Chancellor Meisha Porter said: "This historic project will bring thousands of new seats to Queens and provide students with state-of-the-art facilities where they can learn, grow and thrive. Thank you to our partners at the School Construction Authority, community leaders, and local Queens families for helping us bring Northern Boulevard High School to life."

Other amenities at the school will include:

- Six Art Classrooms
- Three Music Rooms
- Six Science labs
- Six Science Demo Rooms
- Six Science Prep Rooms
- Three Exercise Rooms
- Bicycle Storage
- Shower/Changing Room

- Guidance Suite
- Medical Suite
- Two Administrative Suites
- Two Parent/Community Offices
- Two Staff Lunch Areas
- Outdoor Play Yard w/ Basketball and Handball Courts

The high school will also house a total of 18 special education classrooms with their own main office, two speech rooms, three additional resource rooms and guidance offices, as well as an occupational therapy room, physical therapy room, changing room, and multi-purpose room.

The building was designed by the SCA’s team of in-house architects and engineers, and a \$178.85 million contract, awarded to Turner Construction, calls for the school to be ready for occupancy for the start of the 2025-2026 school year. To further address overcrowding in Queens high schools, the SCA will also be opening:

- Academy of American Studies HS – 969 seats in 2022;
- Francis Lewis HS Annex – 555 seats in 2022;
- Cardozo HS Annex – 795 seats in 2023; and
- Hillside Ave HS – 801 seats in 2026

The SCA’s 2020-2024 Capital Program includes nearly \$2.13 billion in funding for 29 buildings adding more than 18,000 seats in Queens.

Queens Borough President Donovan Richards said: “I am thrilled to break ground on the new Northern Boulevard High School, which will make a significant dent in the school overcrowding situation here in Queens. Every child in our borough deserves a quality education, and more quality schools should be something we all strive for. I thank the School Construction Authority’s President and Chief Executive Officer, Nina Kubota, and her entire team for the hard work they have put in in getting this vitally important project off the ground.”



Council Member Jimmy Van Bramer said: “The groundbreaking for the Northern Blvd. H.S. is a momentous occasion. At a time when many of New York City’s schools are over capacity, the inclusion of three high schools and seats for more than 3,000 students, including a program for students with specialized needs, is a welcome addition, not only for Woodside, but New York City as a whole. Congratulations to all the community leaders and parents who helped make this happen!”

Assembly Member Brian Barnwell said: “One of the biggest issues we are facing in education is rising class sizes. We have been advocating for new school construction that will help lower the student-to-teacher ratio for classes. Today, we make a big stride in lowering class sizes for our students by the beginning of construction on this new high school.”

As part of the SCA’s **Public Art for Public Schools** program, there will be an artist commissioned to create site-specific artwork in the lobby of the new high school. For additional information on the New York City School Authority, please visit www.nycsca.org

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About the SCA

The School Construction Authority's (SCA) mission is to design and construct safe, attractive and environmentally sound public schools for children throughout the many communities of New York City. We are dedicated to building and modernizing schools in a responsible, cost-effective manner while achieving the highest standards of excellence in safety, quality and integrity.

Established by the New York State Legislature in December 1988, the SCA has provided over 280,000 new school seats, not including Temporary Classroom Units (TCUs), to New York City students, opened the nation's largest free Universal Pre-Kindergarten (UPK) network providing almost 11,000 seats under the Mayor's UPK initiative and protected, repaired and upgraded over 1,800 schools in over 1,400 school buildings with over 12,500 capital improvement projects.



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