

The announcement was made in Basking Ridge, marking a decisive turning point in Morocco's preparations for the FIFA World Cup 2026™. Governor Mikie Sherrill, joined by Morocco's Ambassador to the United States, Youssef Amrani, officially confirmed the selection of The Pingry School as the permanent base camp for the Moroccan national team throughout the tournament. This historic site, which previously served as a training center during the 1994 World Cup, underwent a full renovation in 2025 to provide elite infrastructure, including two international-standard grass pitches and a state-of-the-art athletics center.

This strategic decision aims to provide Mohamed Ouahbi's men with an optimal working environment ahead of their highly anticipated opening match against Brazil on June 13 at MetLife Stadium. For Governor Sherrill, welcoming Morocco holds special significance as New Jersey is home to nearly 10,000 residents of Moroccan descent, making the state a true "home away from home" for the squad.

Leading up to this announcement, Ambassador Youssef Amrani conducted a rigorous inspection and diplomatic mission. After reviewing the quality of the athletic facilities at the Pingry training center, he met with the Commissioner for International Affairs of the New York Mayor's Office. These discussions were designed to coordinate security measures, delegation hospitality, and the management of the media excitement surrounding the Atlas Lions in this critical tournament hub.

The Ambassador expressed his deep gratitude to local authorities, emphasizing that football possesses a unique power to unite nations and foster enduring bonds. As three other nations prepare to announce their own New Jersey base camps, Morocco confirms its leadership by securing a top-tier preparation center that combines technical serenity with massive local support.