



**Board of Cooperative Educational Services  
Sole Supervisory District  
St. Lawrence-Lewis Counties  
P.O. Box 231, 40 W. Main Street  
Canton, New York 13617**

**Board of Education Meeting Date: September 9, 2021  
BOE APPROVED:**

The regular meeting of the Board of Cooperative Educational Services of the Sole Supervisory District of St. Lawrence-Lewis Counties was held on Thursday, September 9, 2021 at the Educational Services Center, 40 W. Main Street, Canton, New York beginning at 6:00 pm.

**Roll Call:**

Present: Roger Bennett, Jack Zeh, Cindy McLean, Michael Davis, William Cartwright, and Kevin Wells

Absent: Ward Remington, Michael Miller, and James Lattimer

Others Present: Thomas Burns, Darin Saiff, Maureen Bouchey, Jane Akins, Nicole Ashley, Kevin Perretta, Lori Remington, Jill Farrand, Michael Lahey of MARCH Associates, and Rob Gray of C & S

All members stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

**No. 2022 - 048  
ALL PERSONNEL  
BOARD ACTION AS  
FOLLOWS:**

Motion made by Wells seconded by McLean.

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the St. Lawrence-Lewis BOCES, upon the recommendation of District Superintendent Burns, does hereby approve the attached Personnel action: All of the following appointments are conditional, pending clearance from the State Education Department, pursuant to Chapter 180 of the Laws of 2000 of the State of New York.

(In accordance with [Board Policy #5150](#) – Recruitment, Selection, & Appt. of Personnel)

Yeas: All members present

Nays: None

**No. 2022 – 049  
LOCAL BIDS**

Motion made by Davis seconded by McLean.

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the St. Lawrence-Lewis BOCES, upon the recommendation of District Superintendent Burns, does approve the bid awards for building materials, to low bidder meeting specifications for Northwest Technical Center, Southwest Technical Center, and Seaway Technical Center for the buildings of the houses:

Roofing Materials:

Northwest Technical Center – J.P. Building Supply - \$3,938.50  
Southwest Technical Center – J.P. Building Supply - \$3,938.50  
Seaway Technical Center – J. P. Building Supply - \$3,938.50

Fascia & Soffit Materials:

Northwest Technical Center – Bicknell Building Supply - \$1,200.40  
Southwest Technical Center – Bicknell Building Supply - \$1,200.40  
Seaway Technical Center – Bicknell Building Supply - \$1,200.40

Exterior Door Materials:

Northwest Technical Center – Bicknell Building Supply - \$2,089.93  
Southwest Technical Center – Bicknell Building Supply - \$2,089.93  
Seaway Technical Center – Bicknell Building Supply - \$2,089.93

Window Materials:

Northwest Technical Center – J.P. Building Supply - \$5,094.21  
Southwest Technical Center – J.P. Building Supply - \$5,094.21  
Seaway Technical Center – J.P. Building Supply - \$5,094.21

Plumbing Materials:

Northwest Technical Center – Bicknell Building Supply - \$4,043.08  
Southwest Technical Center – Bicknell Building Supply - \$3,866.72  
Seaway Technical Center – Bicknell Building Supply - \$3,866.72

Electrical Materials:

Northwest Technical Center – Everything Electric, Inc. - \$7,204.30  
Southwest Technical Center – Everything Electric, Inc. - \$6,956.25  
Seaway Technical Center – Everything Electric, Inc. - \$6,956.25

(In accordance with [Board Policy #4310](#)– Purchasing Policy)

Yeas: All members present  
Nays: None

**No. 2022 – 050  
TECHNOLOGY  
INTERN**

Motion made by Zeh seconded by Wells.

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the St. Lawrence-Lewis BOCES, upon the recommendation of District Superintendent Burns, does hereby approve the temporary appointment of Luis Estevez-Brenton to an unpaid position with the Technology Department, with an increase in hours (80 hours) for a total of 240

hours to shadow computer technicians, under the guidance of Lori Remington, Director of Technology, from August 26 through November 30, 2021.

(In accordance with [Board Policy #5150](#) – Recruitment, Selection, and Appointment of Personnel)

Yeas: All members present

Nays: None

**No. 2022 – 051  
LAWSUIT AGAINST  
JUUL LABS, INC.**

Motion made by McLean seconded by Davis.

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the St. Lawrence-Lewis BOCES, upon the recommendation of District Superintendent Burns, does approve following resolution to participate in a lawsuit against Juul Labs, Inc.:

WHEREAS, the use and abuse of e-cigarettes and vaping devices has increased dramatically among high school and middle school students in recent years, leading to significant risks of addiction, potentially life threatening respiratory ailments, and other health consequences; and

WHEREAS, the use of e-cigarettes and vapid devices by students has caused the St. Lawrence-Lewis BOCES (the “School District”) to incur costs in the form of staff time, disciplinary proceedings, and other costs, with the expectation that these costs will only increase unless and until student use of these devices decreases; and

WHEREAS, the School District’s Board of Education (the “Board”) has been invited to join a nation-wide lawsuit by school districts against Juul Labs, Inc. the largest seller of e-cigarettes in the United States and other parties responsible for the production, marketing, sale and distribution of e-cigarettes and vaping devices; and

WHEREAS, the Board wishes to join this lawsuit to discourage the proliferation of e-cigarettes, end the marketing of e-cigarettes to children, and seek compensation for harm caused to the District due to e-cigarette use.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Education hereby resolves:

1. To appoint the law firms of Ferrara Fiorenza PC, and the Frantz Law Group, APLC and approve the agreement to provide legal services in connection with pursuing claims for damages against Juul Labs, Inc. and others consistent with the recitals above;
2. To authorize the Superintendent to take all steps necessary for the District to become an active co-plaintiff to pending litigation filed on behalf of school districts Nationwide by the Frantz Law Group against Juul Labs, Inc. and others.

(In accordance with [Board Policy #4550](#) – Smoking Tobacco)

Yeas: All members present

Nays: None

**No. 2022 – 052  
LEASE – CORNELL  
COOPERATIVE  
EXTENSION**

Motion made by Zeh, seconded by McLean.

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the St. Lawrence-Lewis BOCES, upon the recommendation of District Superintendent Burns, does hereby approve the one-year lease agreement between Cornell Cooperative Extension of St. Lawrence County (CCE) and St. Lawrence-Lewis BOCES for the purposes of developing the Agricultural Studies Academy. The term of the agreement shall be \$30,000 for the period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022.

(In accordance with [Board Policy #4510](#) – Facilities Planning)

Yeas: All members present

Nays: None

**No. 2022 - 053  
CONSENT AGENDA**

Motion made by Davis, seconded by McLean.

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the St. Lawrence-Lewis BOCES, upon the recommendation of District Superintendent Burns, does hereby approve the consent agenda:

- Minutes of Regular Meeting – [August 19, 2021](#)  
(In accordance with [Board Policy #1432](#) – Order of Business at Regular Board Meetings)
- Treasurer’s Report for period ending August 31, 2021  
(In accordance with [Board Policy #1432](#) – Order of Business at Regular Board Meetings)

A. Account Balances

General Fund	\$1,084,724.01
Federal Fund	\$886,786.52
Trust & Agency Fund	\$240.43
Payroll Fund	\$ 0.00
Capital Renovation Project	\$2,278,738.13
Capital Equipment Reserve	\$204,993.19

B. Current Budget Allocation

[Budget Report](#)  
[District Billing](#)

General Fund Budget..... \$ 71,691,557.00

- Donations  
(In accordance with [Board Policy #4230](#) – Acceptance of Gifts, Grants, and Bequests to BOCES)
  - Donation of a GBC laminator from Southwest Technical Center to Clifton-Fine CSD
  - Donation of Robotics Equipment from Northwest Technical Center to Ogdensburg Free Academy

Yeas: All members present

Nays: None

**Reports:**

[Thomas R. Burns, District Superintendent](#)

[Darin Saiff, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction](#)

**Discussion Items:** None

- Informational Items:**
- A. Update on Facilities – K. Perretta
  - B. Update on Capital Project – Michael Lahey, MARCH Associates & Rob Gray, C&S Companies

Both Mike Lahey and Rob Gray provided a detailed update on the capital project for the Board. Mike Lahey reviewed the below capital project change orders with the Board. Any change orders below the \$50,000 threshold, District Superintendent Burns has authorization to sign. The change orders are listed below:

Seaway Technical Center:

Change Order No. GC-05 – Whitton Construction, LLC.

- Concrete pads at existing doorways - \$24,643.26

Change Order No. GC-06 – Whitton Construction, LLC.

- Wall laminating, welding gas storage - \$19,507.41

Change Order No. GC-07 – Whitton Construction, LLC.

- Ceiling outside vestibule V102 and trenching & chases - \$22,469.96

Change Order No. GC-08 – Whitton Construction, LLC.

- Post abatement wall reconstruction – north end - \$20,369.66

Change Order No. GC-09 – Whitton Construction, LLC.

- Post abatement wall reconstruction – south end - \$28,268.55

Change Order No. GC-10 – Whitton Construction, LLC.

- Corridor wall build-out at locker removals - \$20,670.64

Change Order No. GC-11 – Whitton Construction, LLC.

- Corridor wall build-out at locker removals – phase 2 - \$21,027.64

Change Order No. GC-12 – Whitton Construction, LLC.

- Corridor wall build-out at locker removals – display cases - \$26,449.50

Change Order No. GC-13 – Whitton Construction, LLC.

- GC Extras - \$23,536.00

Change Order No. PC-04 – Norwood Plumbing

- Plumbing Extras - \$11,287.00

- C. October meeting – Review the Board of Education Goals
- D. October meeting to be held at Southwest Technical Center on Thursday, October 14<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm.

**Presentations:** None

**Other:** President Roger Bennett presented District Superintendent Thomas R. Burns with the BOCES District Superintendents Extraordinary Service Award from Rural Schools Association of New York State acknowledging the outstanding leadership provided during the pandemic. This award exemplifies the dedication, ingenuity, and leadership that was sorely needed by local school districts. Each changing state, federal and local guidance as well as evolving local conditions made the role of the District Superintendent indispensable in safely and effectively maintaining educational and other services.

**2022-054  
EXECUTIVE  
SESSION**

Motion made by Davis, seconded by McLean.

Resolved, that the Board of Education of the St. Lawrence-Lewis BOCES, upon the recommendation of District Superintendent Burns enter into executive session for matters related to the employment history of a particular person(s) leading to the dismissal or removal at 7:36 pm.

Yeas: All members present  
Nays: None

**RETURNED TO  
SESSION**

The Board returned to regular session at 7:58 pm.

**No. 2022 - 055  
ADJOURNMENT**

Motion made by Wells, seconded by Davis to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 pm.

Yeas: All members present  
Nays: None

**Maureen A. Bouchey, District Clerk**