

CHAMPLAIN VALLEY EDUCATIONAL SERVICES
Board of Cooperative Educational Services
Sole Supervisory District of Clinton, Essex,
Warren and Washington Counties

DATE: March 12, 2025
KIND OF MEETING: Regular Board Meeting
PLACE: CVES Learning Hub Conference Center Plattsburgh, NY

Board Members Present:
Leisa Boise (Left at 7:29pm)
Bob Bourgeois
Kathy Comins-Hunter
Dina Garvey
Patricia Gero
Richard Harriman, Sr.
Donna LaRocque
Bruce Murdock
Emily Phillips
Lori Saunders
Michael St. Pierre
Eddie Webbinaro
Donna Wotton

Board Members Absent:
Kathy Comins-Hunter
Ed Marin
Emily Reynolds Bergh

Others Present:
Dr. Eric Bell
Amy Campbell
Dr. Matthew Slattery
Abby Seymour

Executive Officer:
Dr. Mark Davey

Board Clerk:
Katelyn Smart

MEETING
TO ORDER

Board President Michael St. Pierre called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm.

EXECUTIVE
SESSION

Mr. Murdock. moved, seconded by Mr. Harriman Sr., that the Board go into Executive Session at 6:05 pm for the following reasons: #5 - A matter of collective negotiations pursuant to article 14 of Civil Service Law (the Taylor Law); #6 - A matter of the medical, financial, credit, or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation; and #8 - A matter of the proposed acquisition, sale or lease of real property or the proposed acquisition of securities, or sale or exchange of securities held by the School District if such discussion publicity would substantially affect the value thereof.

Dr. Davey opened the Executive Session by providing the Board with a confidential update regarding his District Superintendent contract and the potential impact of the recently approved Board of Regents NYSED Regulations 124-1 pertaining to District Superintendents. Next, Dr. Bell and Dr. Davey presented several confidential updates regarding the Capital Project and associated contractual matters. Third, Dr. Davey then shared important Labor Relations updates and proposed parameters in preparation for upcoming negotiations with both the CSEA and Administrators units. Finally, the Board reviewed several confidential personnel matters.

Mr. Murdock moved, seconded by Mrs. Boise, that the Board come out of Executive Session at 6:44 pm. All Board Members present voted yes, and the motion was carried.

ROOFTOP BOCES
PRESENTATION

Dr. Matthew Slattery, CVES Executive Director of Special Education, introduced Ms. Abby Seymour, Systems Change Facilitator for the North Country Regional Partnership, to present on the Rooftop BOCES collaboration and the recently awarded \$6.5 million Special Education Partnership grant.

Ms. Seymour began her presentation by providing an overview of the Rooftop BOCES initiative, a coordinated effort to enhance special education services across CVES (CEWW) BOCES, Franklin-Essex-Hamilton (FEH) BOCES, and St. Lawrence-Lewis (SLL) BOCES. This grant-funded partnership is one of twelve Regional Partnership Regions established across New York State.

She emphasized that the BOCES involved already had a strong communication network and saw this as an opportunity to build upon existing collaborative relationships. Notably, the contract—previously held by an external agency—is now being managed locally, allowing regional staff to directly serve their communities.

Ms. Seymour detailed the partnership's organizational structure and what it will look like once fully staffed. She explained the tiered approach to their work, the initiative's goals, and the support being provided to local districts. This includes monthly meetings with CVES Special Education Directors and CSE Chairpersons and the use of data-driven strategies to help improve outcomes across the region.

Dr. Slattery, who played a foundational role in establishing the Rooftop BOCES Partnership, was recognized for his leadership. Following the presentation, Dr. Davey expressed appreciation to both Ms. Seymour and Dr. Slattery. CVES Board members then engaged in a thoughtful discussion and asked several questions regarding the initiative.

DS UPDATE

Dr. Davey began his monthly District Superintendent's Update by highlighting several activities and developments at CVES over the past month. He thanked Board members for attending the recent CV-TEC Open Houses held at both the Mineville and Plattsburgh Campuses.

Second, Dr. Davey referenced the detailed written update provided in the recent Board Transmittal regarding the CVES Capital Project. Dr. Bell added that asphalt surface removal for the new CTE Center is scheduled to begin tomorrow, with foundation work to follow by the end of the month. The CTE Center project remains on schedule and on budget.

Third, Dr. Davey shared several procedural updates, including potential CVES Code of Conduct revisions to the CVES search process and the implementation of a new student cell phone ban policy if Governor Hochul and the Legislature approve it. He also provided an update on the new legal requirement for each Board of Education and BOCES Board to include a student Board member beginning in the 2025 – 2026 school year. Dr. Davey is working with legal counsel James Gregory, Esq., to develop a draft procedure to meet this mandate. CVES will need to have two student Board members - one representing our northern component districts and one representing our southern component districts. Each

student must be enrolled in a BOCES program during the year. Student representatives will be selected by their respective component districts, following a rotating selection schedule. Dr. Davey will be discussing this information with the Chief School Officers at their next CSO meeting.

Fourth, Dr. Davey shared information from the recent BOCES Lobby Day. Dr. Davey, along with several of his JMT BOCES District Superintendent colleagues, participated in the 2025 BOCES Lobby Day at the New York State Capitol. They met with multiple state legislators to advocate for the 2025 BOCES Legislative Priorities. Key discussion topics included the need for increased Foundation Aid, enhanced reimbursement for CTE staffing costs—which have not been adjusted since 1991—and support for extending the retiree waiver provision. In addition, the group advocated for modernizing the BOCES school aid structure and expanding BOCES lease terms to align with those available to other public entities, such as school districts. Specifically, they recommend extending the current 10-year maximum lease term for BOCES to a 20-year maximum, allowing for greater flexibility and long-term planning.

Fifth, Dr. Davey shared that he attended the New York State Board of Regents meeting earlier this week. He highlighted several impactful presentations from the session, including an update on Career and Technical Education (CTE) and Graduation Measures, proposed revisions to Teaching Assistant regulations, strategies for recruiting the next generation of New York State teachers, and efforts to improve access to preschool special education services.

Sixth, Dr. Davey and Dr. Slattery will present at the Plattsburgh City School District Board meeting tomorrow, Thursday, March 13th, 2025. Dr. Davey also reviewed the dates of the upcoming component district Board of Education meetings.

Lastly, Dr. Davey concluded the DS Update by sharing the next CVES Board Meeting and Annual Meeting will be held on April 9, 2025, at the Yandon-Dillon Educational Center in Mineville, NY. The Annual BOCES Budget Vote and Election are scheduled for Tuesday, April 29, 2025.

PREVIOUS
MINUTES

Mr. Murdock moved, seconded by Mrs. LaRocque., to approve the Draft Minutes from the Feb. 12, 2025, Regular Board meeting. All Board Members present voted yes—motion carried.

CONSENT
AGENDA
FINANCIAL

Mr. Harriman Sr. moved, seconded by Mrs. Saunders, to approve the following Consent Agenda Financial items as presented. All Board Members present voted yes—motion carried.

CERTIFICATION
OF WARRANT

Approve the Certification of Warrant for Dec. 24, 2024, to Feb. 3, 2025. (attached)

TREASURER'S
REPORT

Approve the Treasurer's Reports from January 31, 2025. (attached)

EXTRA-
CLASSROOM
TREASURER'S
REPORT

Approve the Extraclassroom Treasurer's Report from January 1, 2025, to January 31, 2025. (attached)

SPECIAL AID
FUND PROJECT(S)

Approve the following Special Aid Fund project(s):

1. National School Lunch Program (NSLP) Equipment Assistance Grant in the amount of \$20,000 for the period of July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025. These funds will be used to for the purchase of Cafeteria Equipment for the Yandon-Dillon cafeteria.
2. Adirondack for Kids – Sliding for Success Special Aid Fund project in the amount of \$2,500 for the period of January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2025. (Rise)

SPECIAL AID
FUND PROJECT
BUDGET
INCREASES

Approve the following Special Aid Fund project budget increase(s):

1. Employment Preparation Education (EPE) Special Aid Fund project budget from \$255,042 to \$261,288 for the period of July 1st, 2024, through June 30, 2025, due to an increase in funding in the amount of \$6,246. (CV-TEC)
2. Increase School Library System Supplemental Operating Aid (F956) from \$49,800 to \$53,295, for the period of July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, due to rollover funds from 2023-2024. (S³)
3. Increase School Library System Categorical Aid for Automation (F949) from \$10,212 to \$14,761, for the period of July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, due to rollover funds from 2023 – 2024 (S³)

DONATION(S)

Approve the following Donations:

1. Donation of a 2018 Mitsubishi Mirage from Jenny Bryan. The item donated will be utilized within the Automotive Technology program within the CV-TEC Plattsburgh division.
2. Donation of miscellaneous medical, first aid, and maple syrup production supplies from Michael Hepmeier. The items donated will be utilized by multiple programs at CV-TEC. They will be used for staff and student training.

CROSS
CONTRACT
BUDGET

Approve the following Cross Contract budget:

1. Approve the Community Schools – FEH BOCES budget (Co-Ser 574) in the amount of \$7,350 for the 2024 – 2025 school year, to accommodate for a Cross Contract with FEH BOCES (Northern Adirondack). (S³)
2. Approve the Special Education 6:1:1 – WSWHE BOCES budget (Co-Ser 215) in the amount of \$10,554 for the 2024 – 2025 school year, to accommodate for a Cross Contract with WSWHE BOCES (Schroon Lake). (Rise)

CROSS
CONTRACT
BUDGET
INCREASE(S)

Approve the following Cross Contract Budget increase(s):

1. Increase the Virtual Summer School – Capital Region BOCES budget (Co-Ser 459) from \$6,336 to \$11,730 for the 2024-2025 school year, to accommodate for an additional Cross Contract with Capital Region BOCES (Plattsburgh). (S³)

AGREEMENT(S)

Approve the following Agreement(s):

1. Agreement between Clinton-Essex-Warren-Washington BOCES and Cornell University for the purpose of obtaining the following training session: “5-day Therapeutic Crisis Intervention Training of Trainers for Schools” (TCIS TxT) for the dates of May 5-9, 2025. The total amount for all services is \$35,500. (S³) (attached)
2. Agreement between Clinton-Essex Warren-Washing BOCES and Cornell University for the purpose of obtaining the following training session: “1-day Therapeutic Crisis Intervention Training of Trainers for Schools” (TCIS update) Competence, Training, and Evaluation (CT & E) for the date of May 2, 2025. The total amount of this service is \$6,700. (S³) (attached)

AUDIT
COMMITTEE
HIGHLIGHTS

Audit Committee Meeting Highlights – December 11, 2024 (Info. Only)

CONSENT
AGENDA
PERSONNEL

Mrs. LaRocque moved, seconded by Mr. Murdock, to approve the following Consent Agenda Personnel items as presented. All Board Members voted yes—motion carried.

AMEND
LAVALLEY

Amend the following Tenure Appointment that was approved at the January 15, 2025, Board meeting, due to prior tenure as a School Counselor:

Recommend that the Board appoint the following person(s) to a ~~Four-Year~~ Three-Year Probationary appointment as follows:

1. Name: Lauren LaValley

Tenure Area: School Counselor
Position: School Counselor
Effective Date: February 24, 2025
Tentative Tenure Date: ~~February 24, 2029~~ February 24, 2028

RESIGNATION
FOR THE
PURPOSES OF
RETIREMENT
SIMMONS &
JENNETTE

Accept the following letter(s) of resignation for the purpose of retirement:

1. Kenneth Simmons, Custodial Worker, effective March 1, 2025
2. Angela Jennette, Clerk, effective October 21, 2025

Dr. Davey paused the meeting to acknowledge the resignation for the purpose of retirement for Kenneth Simmons and Angela Jennette. Ken worked for CVES for 7 years, and Angela has worked for CVES for 23.5 years.

Amy Campbell shared that Angela is the face and voice of CVES, she is the one you see when you walk through the door and the person on the other side of the phone when you call. She is committed to making CVES the best it can be daily. The Audit Committee members shared their sentiments and said that she does an excellent job as the Claims Auditor.

Dr. Bell gave sentiments about Ken's time at CVES. Ken was the Custodian, and this was a second career for him. He truly found CVES a family, he was connected to all the employees.

RESIGNATION
JAVA-
FARNSWORTH,
MONETTE,
MCCULLOUGH, &
ZEHR

Accept the following letter(s) of resignation:

1. Kelly Java-Farnsworth, Teaching Assistant, effective February 21, 2025
2. Kelsey Monette, School District Treasurer (Shared), effective March 15, 2025
3. Megan McCullough, School Social Worker, effective March 29, 2025
4. Stephanie Zehr, School Social Worker, effective June 28, 2025

LEAVE(S) OF
ABSENCE
WALDRON,
DAUPLAISE,
BRIENZA, &
GALARNEAU

Approve the following leave(s) of absence:

1. Cindy Waldron, Teacher Aide/ Student Aide, unpaid leave of absence, effective February 19, 2025 – March 4, 2025
2. Scarlett Dauplaise, unpaid leave of absence, effective February 26, 2025 – March 4, 2025
3. Danielle Brienza, Teacher Aide/ Student Aide, unpaid leave of absence, effective March 1, 2025 – March 16, 2025
4. Taylor Galarneau, unpaid leave of absence, effective March 19, 2025 – May 9, 2025

4. Name: Eileen Davis-Roesler (was 40%)
Tenure Area: Deaf & Hearing Impaired
Position: Teacher of the Deaf 60%
Effective Date: February 24, 2025
Tentative Tenure Date: February 24, 2029
Certification Status: Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Initial Certificate
Annual Base Salary: \$62,000
FTE Adjusted Annual Salary: \$37,200

5. Name: Zachary Buzzell (was temporary)
Tenure Area: Residential/ Commercial Building Maintenance & Remodeling 7-12
Position: Building Trades/ Carpentry Teacher
Effective Date: February 27, 2025
Tentative Tenure Date: February 27, 2029
Certification Status: Carpentry 7-12, Transitional A Certificate

6. Name: Wyatt Warren (was temporary)
Tenure Area: Teaching Assistant
Position: Teaching Assistant
Effective Date: March 4, 2025
Tentative Tenure Date: March 4, 2029
Certification Status: Teaching Assistant, Level 1 Certificate

(The Expiration dates for the above appointments are tentative and conditional only. Except to the extent required by the applicable provisions of Section 3012 of the Education Law, in order to be granted tenure the teacher must receive composite or overall annual professional performance review ratings pursuant to Section 3012-c and/or 3012d of the Education Law of either effective or highly effective in at least three (3) of the four (4) preceding years, and if the teacher receives an ineffective composite or overall rating in the final year of the probationary period the teacher shall not be eligible for tenure at that time).

BUILDING CHECKS

Approve the following person(s) to perform Building Checks for the 2024 – 2025 school year:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Devin LaPorte	Plattsburgh (\$100/day)

TEMP-ON-CALL AND SUBSTITUTE 2024 – 2025

Approve the following temp-on-call and substitute positions for the 2024 – 2025 school year:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>
Elizabeth Parent	Teaching Assistant
Adam Stickle	Bus Driver (<i>pending clearance</i>)

2025 – 2026
SPECIAL
EDUCATION
SUMMER
SCHOOL (ESY)
STAFFING

Approve the following 2025 – 2026 Special Education Summer School (ESY) Staffing:

Teacher, Hourly rate of pay per contract
Suzanne Chrisman

Teaching Assistant, Hourly rate of pay per contract
Casandra Kellaway
Kiera Simpson
Emily Duquette
Hailey Reynolds

Registered Nurse (schools), hourly rate of pay per contract
Kelly Tursky

Registered Behavior Technician, hourly rate of pay per contract
Emily Norwood

CVES BOARD
MEETING DATES
FOR 2025 – 2026
SCHOOL YEAR

Mr. Murdock moved, seconded by Mrs. LaRocque that the Board approve the following CVES Board Meeting dates for the 2025 – 2026 school year:

July 9, 2025 – Plattsburgh
August 20, 2025 – Mineville
September 10, 2025 – Plattsburgh
October 8, 2025 – Plattsburgh
November 12, 2025 – Mineville
December 10, 2025 – Plattsburgh
January 14, 2026 – Mineville
February 11, 2026 – Plattsburgh
March 11, 2026 – Mineville
April 1, 2026 – Plattsburgh
May 13, 2026 – Mineville
June 10, 2026 – Plattsburgh

All Board Members present voted yes—motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Murdock moved, seconded by Mrs. Garvey, to adjourn the meeting at 7:43 pm. All Board Members present voted yes—motion carried.

DRAFT

Katelyn Smart, Board Clerk