SNAPSHOT OF BOCES SERVICES FOR
LAFFAYETTE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Lafayette’s share of the 2021-22 BOCES administrative budget $32,455

Through cooperative purchasing, in 2020-21 Lafayette saved an estimated $51,968

Initial BOCES contract amounted to 13.7% of your current year budget

Estimated BOCES aid to be received in 2021-22 $886,709

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New York State’s approval process for Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs has raised the quality and rigor of courses that prepare students for employment and postsecondary study. Approved programs lead to an industry-recognized credential or certificate at the postsecondary level, or an associate or baccalaureate degree. CTE courses offer students the opportunity to apply academic concepts to real-world situations and prepare them for industry-based assessments or certifications. They have the opportunity to learn college credit or advanced standing while still in high school and take part in work-based learning opportunities where they demonstrate mastery of skills essential in the workplace. In addition, our Technically Endorsed programs, embedded in area businesses, have been recognized by District Administration magazine as one of more than 30 national innovative programs. In 2021, 412 seniors from OCM BOCES’ component districts were eligible to earn CTE endorsements on their high school diplomas, including LaFayette students Saira Dorrinelly, Nathan Hill, Wyatt Jacobs, Kyle Skinner and Kyle Thomas.

### Special Education

Number of classrooms in school district buildings that host BOCES Special Education Programs

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**OCM BOCES & LaFayette = Student Success**

Before he came to OCM BOCES as a junior, James Clemens knew he wanted to learn a hands-on trade that would ultimately result in a well-paying job and a satisfying career. One year later, a kernel of interest in welding has turned into an all-out passion for James to learn everything he can before graduating this spring.

"In this OCM BOCES welding class, you do so much more than weld," he said. "You have to make things work. You learn from your own mistakes. You have to learn how to use different tools and machines that will help you in the future."

Instructor Duane Debejan said the students in his class are expected to “treat the classroom as a job — and James comes in every day on time and ready to work.”

“James is often put in a spot where he needs to think for himself,” Debejan added. “I have told James that I have the answer to his question, but then I ask him, ‘How would you solve the problem?’”

James, in turn, has grown to appreciate problem-solving on his own. He has taken a new interest in the 1-inch plate test, for example — a skill that requires the welder to cut two pieces from a plate and bend them. The result “will always show you what was wrong with the weld,” James said. “I always know what I need to do to improve.”

James’ skills have improved significantly since coming to BOCES last year, Debejan said. He likes to challenge himself, practice different techniques, and become more and more creative as his skills evolve.

Looking ahead, James hopes to use his welding skills to become a pipe-fitter or any job related to that work. For now, however, he is focused on getting the most out of his senior year.

“I always look forward to coming here,” he said.

Did You Know?

Before the LaFayette Central School District continues to work with the OCM BOCES Grant Writing Service offered through Consultant Support Services to fund school district initiatives. This summer, the district was awarded $63,386 through the Local Government Records Management Improvement Fund grant program. These grants assist recipients in establishing records management programs or developing new program components.