



Construction update

On June 28th, twelve local companies employing over fifty local workers began a series of EXCEL-funded construction projects throughout the CV District. Under the direction of lead architect Rob Warholic of Clark Patterson Lee Associates, many vital building improvements were completed during the summer months. Port Dickinson Elementary received new gym lights and new exterior doors and windows, as well as a much improved energy management system to reduce energy costs.

Chenango Bridge Elementary received a high efficiency boiler, new heat pumps, a new roof with exhaust fans, and an energy management system like Port Dickinson's. The Middle School/High School building got new security cameras and canopies were added over all of the entrances.

Beginning in 2006, New York State allocated millions of dollars to school districts throughout the State for the support of capital improvements such as ours. In May of 2007, CV District voters approved this project which was completed in October after fifteen weeks of work with no impact on the school tax rate. Thanks to this project, the CV District now has safer, more secure, and more energy efficient buildings.

~Stuart Elliott, BOE Member

Annual audit

The Annual Audit of the Chenango Valley District was conducted over the summer by our external audit firm of Ciashi, Dietershagen, Little, Mickelson & Company. The final report was presented to the District at the regular Board of Education meeting on October 21st.

The report noted that all of the deficiencies flagged in the previous year's audit have been substantially corrected. The District ended the year with a positive fund balance and has eliminated the general fund deficit and school lunch fund deficit. Additionally, there were no over expenditures reported.

The Board of Education corrected the internal fiscal operations deficiencies as noted in the prior year by contracting District business functions with the Broome-Tioga BOCES Central Business Office. Through this alliance, the Board of Education was able to obtain and evaluate accurate District accounting information and make a long range three-year budget projection. The District has used a portion of the fund balance to establish several new reserve funds to buffer future expenses in insurance and benefits.

Through the committed efforts of the Chenango Valley Board of Education and the expertise and resources of numerous professional consultants, we are happy to report that the past fiscal difficulties of the District are resolved. The auditors' unqualified opinion supports these positive outcomes. Following acceptance at the regular November business meeting, the final audit report will be posted on the District's website.

~James W. Penwell, BOE President

Bus proposition update

Last May, CV voters approved a proposition to purchase two 66-passenger school buses and two mini-buses. One of the mini-buses will be equipped with a wheelchair lift. The cost of the four vehicles will be approximately \$294,000. The expected lifespan of the vehicles is ten years.

All of the new vehicles were greatly needed to upgrade the District's aging bus fleet. Several of the old buses had expired warranties.

New York State will compensate the District for 80% of the purchase prices. In addition, two large buses – both 1997 models – were traded in. Three smaller buses were also sold at auction. The total recovered value of these five vehicles was \$7,200. In effect, the CV District was able to buy four buses at a direct cost to the District of \$51,600. The Transportation Department expects many years of reliable and safe service from these new purchases.

~Stuart Elliott, BOE Member

Students honor BOE

CV High School art students presented wildlife pen and ink and watercolor paintings to CV School Board members in appreciation of the time and effort they invest in the District and its students.

~Robert Zanot, HS Art

