

## BOCES 2 seeks approval for \$29M

### Nine districts to vote Dec. 16 on upgrading physical plant

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With buildings that haven't seen significant renovation in more than four decades, Monroe 2-Orleans Board of Cooperative Educational Services is turning to voters for help.

The shared educational services organization has proposed a \$29.2 million capital project that residents living in its nine component districts will be asked to approve on Dec. 16.

"This project is the first of its kind for our BOCES," said District Superintendent Jo Anne Antonacci. "One of our greatest needs is providing quality student classroom space. In career tech you need both theory space and lab space and our spaces just were not built or designed that way."

On its campus on Big Ridge Road near Spencerport, Monroe 2-Orleans BOCES offers career and technical education, adult workforce development, instructional support for teachers, extensive special educational programs and an array of other services.

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CARLOS ORTIZ/CFORTIZ\_DANDC/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

**Greece Athena senior Jordan Martorana practices during a welding class Tuesday at BOCES 2 in Ogden. The facility will be renovated if voters approve a capital project.**

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The water supply system at BOCES 2 in Ogdén. The copper pipes in the building are out-of-date and the restrooms need replacing.

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### BOCES

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It is among 36 BOCES that serve 700 school districts in New York.

Monroe 2-Orleans BOCES serves 40,000 students in nine component districts: Brockport, Churchville-Chili, Gates Chili, Greece, Hilton, Holley, Kendall, Spencerport and Wheatland- Chili. It has an annual operating budget of about \$78 million.

The capital project proposal would largely be paid for via state aid, estimated to cover about 63 percent of the cost. The remainder would be spread out among the nine districts, based on how many students from each use BOCES services. Interest costs are expected to add about \$10 million to the project.

The average annual cost for property owners is likely to be somewhere around \$6 to \$8 for the owner of a \$100,000 home, said Steve Roland, BOCES finance director.

Project work would include: **Â»** A rebuilt parking lot with 450 new spaces, improved drainage, lighting and utilities

**Â»** A new roof at the Educational Services Center and a 15,200square-foot classroom addition.

**Â»** A new roof at the south Western Monroe County Career and Technical Education Center building along with plumbing and electrical service upgrade; new HVAC and exhaust systems at the WEMOCO north building and electrical upgrades.

“In terms of our infrastructure, much of what we have on this campus are our original structures,” said Antonacci. Many of the buildings were constructed in the 1960s. “This project is all about student focus. The improvements we are making here are for career and technical education and special education spaces for our kids.”

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**JO ANNE ANTONACCI**

DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT

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