

## **Mentor Information for Morris County School of Technology's Structured Learning Experience**

*"Structured learning experience (SLE)" means experiential, supervised, in-depth learning experiences that are designed to offer students the opportunity to more fully explore career interests within one or more of the Career Clusters, as described in N.J.A.C. 6A:8-3.2, Career education and counseling. NJAC 6A:19-1.2 (from [http://www.spannj.org/START/Parents\\_SLE.pdf](http://www.spannj.org/START/Parents_SLE.pdf))*

Thank you for your interest in the Morris County School of Technology's Structured Learning Experience (SLE) graduation requirement for seniors. We are thankful for your willingness to partner with us for this amazing experience. Below is some basic information regarding our program and your involvement. If you have any questions or concerns at any time, please contact Melissa Sevola ([sevolam@mcvts.org](mailto:sevolam@mcvts.org)) or Pete Bedell ([bedellp@mcvts.org](mailto:bedellp@mcvts.org)), Structured Learning Coordinators or Jen Skomial ([skomialj@mcvts.org](mailto:skomialj@mcvts.org)) for the Academy for Education and Learning students.

- All full-time 12<sup>th</sup> grade students are required to complete an approved SLE in order to graduate.
- Each student must pursue an SLE which is mentored by a professional with credentials/skills/etc. related to that student's academy.
- Interviews, etc. are anticipated and the students know this is the real world.
- Each student must complete a minimum of 120 hours (100 hours for the Academy for Math, Science, and Engineering students) at a worksite that has been approved by the Structured Learning Coordinators and Board of Education.
  - There is never any obligation to accept our students or keep them for the entire 120/100 hours as the students may have more than one SLE site.
  - Approved students may complete up to 75 hours over the summer between their junior and senior years.
- Students are encouraged to explore opportunities that best support their career exploration and career development goals.
- The experience can be paid or unpaid, a shadowing experience, and something hands-on.
- The Structured Learning Coordinators conduct required periodic site visits to see our students "in action" during their SLEs.

Consistent with the New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development Child Labor Regulations, N.J.A.C. 12:56-18.2, School-to-Work Programs, the school district and business/agency understand that the intent of this structured learning experience is instructional, not productive employment. Therefore, the structured learning experience (SLE) must include all of the following elements to be consistent with a "learning experience." A mentor will agree to ensure that any structured learning experience meets the following regulatory requirements:

- (1) The student is at least 16 years of age;
- (2) The structured learning experience must be related to educational standards and career ready practices;
- (3) There is collaboration and planning between worksite staff and school staff;
- (4) Any productive work is incidental to the student achieving the planned learning objectives;
- (5) The student is expected to achieve the learning objectives and will receive a grade and/or credit for time spent at the worksite;
- (6) The student is supervised by an appropriately licensed school official and a workplace mentor;
- (7) The SLE is of a limited duration, related to an educational purpose and there is no guarantee or expectation that the activity will result in employment; and
- (8) The student does not replace an employee.

Additional information regarding the Structured Learning Experience program including guidelines, and sample insurance letter, etc. can be found at the district website, [www.mcvts.org](http://www.mcvts.org).

Melissa M. Sevola, MA  
Structured Learning Coordinator  
Certified Supervisor and Teacher  
Morris County School of Technology  
400 East Main Street  
Denville, NJ 07834  
973-627-4600, Ext. 242  
973-586-4314 (FAX)  
973-627-6979 (FAX)