

Jackson County School District

Chester Shannon, *Superintendent*
(870) 349-2232 • (870) 349-2355 Fax

PRINCIPALS

Angelia Holland, *Tuckerman High School*
Kiley Roberts, *Swifton Middle School*
Brandon Gates, *Tuckerman Elementary*

DISTRICT TREASURER

Laura King

P.O. Box 1070
Tuckerman, AR 72473

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Sandra Provence
Ada Person
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Justin Best
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Nick Templeton

August 28, 2025

TIPS Construction Waiver Request

Dear Director Garrity,

Jackson County School District is asking that the dollar limit on the cooperative purchasing construction services aggregate be waived for our upcoming projects. These projects will include:

- The addition of HVAC to our middle school gym
- A lobby expansion/remodel of our middle school gym
- The replacement of the HVAC in our Tuckerman campus auditorium
- The installation of solid metal classroom doors replacing wooden doors on both campuses

Through the Academic Facilities Partnership Program, the School District will receive approximately \$385,000.00 towards the projects listed above.

Our extensive past experience working with TIPS vendor Lacy's Welding and Construction, LLC has consistently demonstrated cost savings compared to the architect's original estimate. Mr. Lacy thoroughly reviews project specifications with sub-contractors and the architect, and frequently recommends cost-saving alternatives to the school district. The process is focused on value and efficiency.

Below is a list of all of the construction projects our school district has completed during the past five years:

- 2020: Paved Gym Parking Lot, Tuckerman Campus – \$394,555.00
- 2021: Replacement of Eaves and Soffit, Tuckerman Campus– \$139,695.00
- 2021: ESSER HVAC Project, Tuckerman and Swifton Campuses – \$184,766.00
- 2022: Pre-School Remodel – \$141,000.00
- 2023: Cafeteria HVAC, Tuckerman Campus – \$61,600.00
- 2023: Safety Tinting and Safety Doors, Tuckerman and Swifton Campuses – \$128,639.00

Lacy's Welding and Construction, LLC was the vendor for all of these projects.

Our relationship with Lacy's Welding and Construction, LLC dates back to 2006, during the construction of a baseball and a softball complex. I, Superintendent Chester Shannon, acted as the general contractor to reduce costs. Lacy's Welding and Construction, LLC won the competitive bid for the fencing portion. During that project, Mr. Lacy connected the district with additional sub-contractors, contributing significantly to the project's success. Over the years, this professional relationship has proven to be honest, collaborative, and effective.

Using the TIPS program has consistently resulted in lower project costs. The contractor, Lacy's Welding and Construction, LLC actively identifies unnecessary expenses in the specifications and leverages strong relationships with sub-contractors to deliver cost-effective solutions. This requires the district to process payments in a timely manner, which ensures smooth coordination and project flow.

Additionally, all sub-contractors are bonded to the general contractor, who in turn is bonded to the school district. This structure holds the contractor accountable for the quality and performance of all work completed. Through this approach, every project completed by Lacy's Welding and Construction, LLC has come in under the architect's estimated cost.

I look forward to meeting with you. Please reach out with any questions you may have.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chester Shannon", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Chester Shannon, Superintendent

Sample Waiver Request to Exceed Cooperative Purchasing
Construction Services Aggregate Amount

In Accordance with § 19-11-249 (d)

Name of School District or Open Enrollment Public Charter School: _____

Jackson County School District

Name and Title of Person Submitting Report: Chester Shannon, Superintendent

Contact Information of Person Submitting Report: 870-759-1845 cshannon@bulldogs.k12.ar.us

Location of Project (school campus, etc...): Swifton Middle School, Tuckerman High School

Reason for Waiver Request (Timeline for Completion, Preferred Contractor, etc...) _____

the project will be 1.4 million.

Description and Scope of Project (Please attach all relevant documents pertaining to the school construction project): 1. HVAC will be added to Swifton Middle School gym,
2. The lobby of the SMS gym will be expanded to add additional
3. New HVAC replacement for THS Auditorium.
bathrooms.

Total Estimated Cost of Project, Including all available extensions: 1.4 million

Contractor/Vendor: Lacy's Welding and Construction LLC

Contractor/Vendor Contact Information: Joe Lacy 870-530-2618

Vendor Contract #: 23010402

Name of Cooperative Purchasing Program: Tips/TAP

Start Date of Construction: 9-1-2025

Chester Shannon

Signature

8/14/25

Date

Waiver Request to Exceed Cooperative Purchasing Construction Services Aggregate Amount In Accordance with § 19-11-249 (d)

Name of School District or Open Enrollment Public Charter School: Jackson County School District

Name and Title of Person Submitting Report: Superintendent Chester Shannon

**Contact Information of Person Submitting Report: 870-759-1845,
cshannon@bulldogs.k12.ar.us**

Location of Project: Swifton Middle School, Tuckerman High School

Reason for Waiver Request: The request for the waiver is based on the following:

- *The construction project will be greater than 1.4 million dollars.*
- *Proven Vendor Performance: We have had positive prior experience with Lacy's Welding and Construction, LLC who has delivered high-quality work on time and within budget.*
- *Construction While School is in Session: It is essential to work with a vendor who understands our safety protocols and has demonstrated the ability to coordinate effectively in an active school environment.*

Description and Scope of Project: 1. HVAC will be added to Swifton Middle School gym. 2. The lobby of the Swifton Middle School gym will be expanded to add additional bathrooms. 3. New HVAC replacement for the Tuckerman High School Auditorium.

Total Estimated Cost of Project: \$1,460,350.00

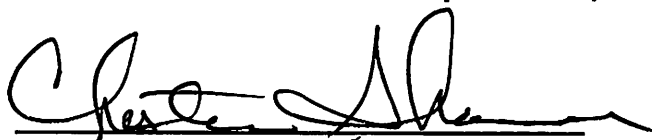
Contractor/Vendor: Lacy's Welding and Construction, LLC

Contractor/Vendor Contact Information: 870-530-2618 cell

Vendor Contract #: 23010402

Name of Cooperative Purchasing Program: Tips/Tap

Start Date of Construction: September 1, 2025



Signature



Date



Lacy's Welding and Construction, LLC

18453 Rorex Rd.

Harrisburg, Arkansas 72432

(870)578-2933 fax or (870-530-2618) cell

Tuckerman and Swifton add on and remodel project

Itemized List:

Block and brick work: \$253,100.00

Roofing: \$261,100.00

Concrete: \$72,900.00

Doors: \$13,000.00

Sheet rock and framing: \$53,300.00

Electrical work: \$114,829.00

Plumbing and fixtures: \$148,000.00

HVAC: \$491,800.00

Total: \$1,408,024.00

Misc. contractor fee: \$52,326.00

Total for project cost: \$1,460,350.00

8-14-2025