

HONEOYE FALLS-LIMA

Central School District

Board of Education

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A Sound Return on Investment

This budget season, we would like to share with the community some information about the Honeoye Falls-Lima Board of Education and how it operates.

The school board is responsible for overseeing the school district's affairs, personnel, and property. As board members, we are stewards of both our children's education and of a taxpayer-funded budget. Board members are responsible for developing a shared vision and goals for the school district, assessing and accounting for student achievement, selecting and evaluating a superintendent, and advocating for the district's needs. We must make decisions on significant issues that affect the students and citizens of the district, communicate our actions to the community, and always focus on what is best for students.

Our school board members are unpaid volunteers and generally are not professional educators. We come from a variety of backgrounds, which allows us to bring diverse perspectives and experience to our role in governing the district. In order to prepare ourselves to effectively carry out the responsibilities of the board, board members are required to complete 12 hours of training during their first year of service. In addition, we all engage in continuing professional development, often taking time away from work and family to attend conferences and workshops to learn best practices and study trends in education. The board also holds an annual day-long retreat, which gives us the opportunity to study additional issues and prepare a work plan for the upcoming year.

Having adequate resources to engage in continuing education is crucial to the board's readiness to do its job. Every board in Monroe County has a travel and conference budget as well as policies governing the use of that budget. In Honeoye Falls-Lima, policies 2320 and 2330 govern reimbursement of board members for expenses incurred in representing the district and for attendance by board members at conferences and workshops ([to view district policies](#), please visit <http://www.hflcsd.org/policies.cfm?master=201046>). These policies were developed using guidance documents issued by the New York State Comptroller to assist local school boards in creating well thought out travel and conference policies (https://www.osc.state.ny.us/localgov/pubs/lmg/travel_expense.pdf). When reimbursing board members for the costs associated with traveling to conferences, most districts, including Honeoye Falls-Lima, use the limits established by the federal lodging, meal, and mileage guidelines. We also economize by sharing rides and, for the past two years, have held our annual professional development retreat within the community, at Genesee Community College's Lima Campus, where we are not charged for use of the facility. Below is a summary of the board's professional development budget.

The Honeoye Falls-Lima Board of Education is committed to being fiscally responsible in its service to the students and taxpayers of the district. If you should have a question for any board member, our personal contact information is available on the District website, www.hflcsd.org.

Sincerely,

Amy West

HF-L School Board President
On behalf of the Board of Education