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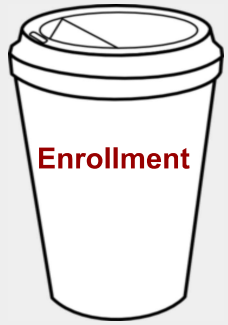

Long-Term Planning Cafe

A night of collaboration and conversation regarding the future of the Onteora Central School District.

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Itinerary:

6:30 p.m. - 6:45 p.m. ~ Welcome/Introductions, Group norms, Café Process

6:45 p.m. - 7:15 p.m. ~ Group discussions using questions

7:45 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. ~ Share out, Survey & Next Steps

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What is a Cafe?

A collaborative setting that:

- **Encourages and promotes a focused conversation.**
- **Values and honors the perspective that each participant brings to the conversation.**
- **Allows for an exchange of thoughts and ideas through conversation.**
- **Promotes thought and reflection as a result of the conversation.**

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Mission Statement:

Our Onteora schools exist to educate and nurture the children of our diverse community. Our mission is to create an engaging and healthy learning environment that empowers all students to pursue their dreams, achieve their goals, and contribute thoughtfully to the global community.

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Vision Statement:

An Onteora education fosters intellectual curiosity, mutual respect, self-respect, creative problem solving, individual expression, ethical decision making and active engagement in the world. Our community values and supports its children, through a holistic collaboration among students, families, the educational community, and Onteora residents at large. Students will graduate as engaged citizens and life-long learners with the confidence, self-awareness and skills to reach their maximum potential, and to live rich and successful lives.

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Cafe Norms

- Be present with your group
- Respect time by staying focused on the questions and themes
- Maintain positive intent and remove judgement
- Be aware of your own airtime; give everyone an opportunity to speak
- Capture off-topic items in a parking lot for further discussion
- Look ahead to positive action
- Enjoy yourself!

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Table Host Responsibilities:

- Participate in the conversations
- Be sure notes on the insights and ideas that are shared by participants are written down on the paper.
- Ensure that everyone has an opportunity to participate in the discussion
- Designate a timekeeper

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Participant Responsibilities:

- Respect time by staying focused on the questions and themes
- Ask questions for clarification and deeper understanding
- Be willing to share your ideas and thoughts
- Build on the ideas of others

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The Cafe Process:

- **At your table, discuss the first question.**
- **The table host or other designated recorder will write down key ideas and themes on the poster paper. Each question has its own paper.**
- **At the end of the designated time (15 minutes), move on to discuss next question.**
- **The process concludes when all four questions are discussed**

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Topics to frame the discussion:

a) Equity of class sizes between schools

b) Providing continuum of services for children with special needs

c) Improved communication and consistency of practice

d) Configuration plan that can adapt to declining enrollment

e) Long-term, more efficient use of limited resources

f) Safety needs across all three campuses (1 SRO)

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Questions for table discussion:

1) What do you notice and wonder about the enrollment charts? (see last two pages of handout)
2) What community supports/resources are needed in our individual town communities?
3) How might we utilize facilities to the optimal benefit of all students in the district in an equitable way?
4) What are the pros and cons of the following options proposed by Dr. Baughman's report? (see handout of possible scenarios)

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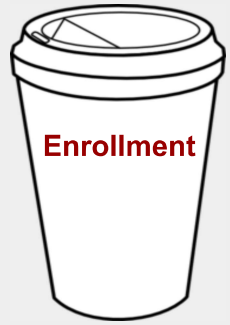

Time to share by table

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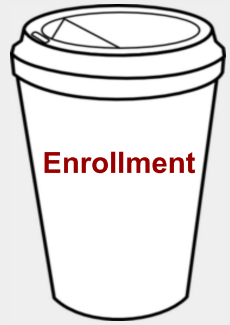

Thank You!!

Please fill out the **reflection survey**

Next meeting is virtual on

February 28th