

President PHILIP RUMORE



October 11, 2013

BUFFALO TEACHERS
FEDERATION, INC

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MEMO TO: All Buffalo Teachers
FROM: Philip Rumore, President, BTF
RE: SLOs/LMAs

Please refer to the BTF, APPR Tab on the website for information relating to the APPR/SLOs/LMA/TIPS, etc. It is updated regularly. Emails sent to teachers are also posted on the website (under News & Alerts and APPR) for teachers for whom we have no personal email address. Please forward your personal email address, or you will miss important emails (name, schools, personal email address), to sumhauer@btfny.org

Please remember –

- Teachers must agree with and sign off on their SLO/LMA and TIP.
- You cannot be forced to agree to an SLO or LMA that contains goals for your students that you don't agree with or that you do not want included. Most administrators are working cooperatively with teachers. If your administrator refuses to work with you to reach an agreement, you don't have to sign the SLO/LMA or TIP.
- Remember, you should receive a signed hard copy and keep it for your records.
- The District is still in the process of reviewing and correcting last years scores.
- We have filed a grievance relating to the 2012-2013 APPRs (see the BTF website, News & Alerts) and we are filing the first (of more we are sure) relating to the 2013-2014 SLO/APPRs.

The BTF continues to lead the fight on the Local, State and National level. We are confident that most, if not all, of the absurd APPR scores will be corrected and/or invalidated. Nothing can ever undo the anger, frustration and morale crushing impact of having to go through a process that has nothing to do with our students, teaching and learning.

Our battle against the cause of this destructive insanity, standardized testing, took another big step

forward with the tremendous Summit for Smarter Schools that attracted over 2500 parents, teachers, teacher aides, administrators and others from all over Western New York in opposition to standardized testing. *The Buffalo News* did a (somewhat uncharacteristically positive) article on the event, as did *Artvoice* and some of the TV and Radio stations.

Similar summits and events are being organized across New York State.

BTF is working on a major event that will focus on the insanity of standardized testing, the fiasco in New York State and other such issues.

Stay tuned.

The battle will continue until the idiots (actually that's not fair to idiots) who are selling this "snake oil" are exposed for what they are... anti public education, pro charter school, profit seeking, anti union, anti teacher, _____. (Your choice – fill in the blank!)

You are the best teachers anywhere. Don't let any of this insanity break your spirit. You are the very best. Please remember that while we continue to fight for you and our students.

PR:su