

BUFFALO TEACHERS FEDERATION, INC.

FIRST REPORT OF ELECTIONS COMMITTEE

February 13, 2025 Council of Delegates (*updated March 13 CofD*)

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mary Favata, Chairperson #198
Molly Eldridge #910
Cheryl Greene #59
Chelsey Waz #48

Brian Hilton, Secretary #33
Frances Costanzo #81
Gabrielle Lockwood #45

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Nominations will be opened for 27 officers of the BTF on Thursday, March 13, 2025 at the Council of Delegates meeting and will close on Thursday, March 27, 2025.
2. The positions to be filled will be the following offices:

Executive Offices

President/Vice President (two candidates to run as a team)
Secretary
Treasurer

(Candidates for election to the above-named positions must be Probationary or Contract teachers.)

Executive Committee Offices

6 – Elementary Classroom Teachers, PreK–6

7 – Secondary Teachers, 7–12

7 – K-12 Teachers

(Teachers of Art, Music and Physical Education, Librarians, Special Education Teachers, Remedial teachers, Teachers who work with referred students, i.e., Attendance Teachers, Guidance Counselors, Psychologists, Social Workers, and all other teachers not named or described in any other category or sub-category.)

3 – At-Large

3. The term of office shall be two (2) years.
4. A member may only be a candidate for one office.
5. Any candidate for any Executive office shall be an active member who shall have maintained continuous membership in the BTF for the entire year in which he or she is nominated.
6. No member whose name appears on an eligible list for any position which would make him or her ineligible for membership in the BTF shall be eligible to be a candidate for office.

II. PROCEDURE

1. **Nominations at March Council of Delegates Meeting.** Candidates for election as officers of this Federation shall be nominated at the Thursday, March 13 Council of Delegates meeting. The persons nominating and seconding the nomination must be a member of the House of Delegates.
2. At the time of nominating, one minute total floor time shall be allowed the nominator. Nominations shall be made separately for each office with the exception of the President and the Vice President who shall run as a team. An example of what is spoken at the microphone:
 - a) **Nominator** state name and School #: I nominate John Doe for At-Large .
 - b) **Secunder** state name and School #: I second the nomination for John Doe .

3. Those who are nominated from the floor of the March 13 Council of Delegates meeting shall submit in writing, to the Committee Secretary, the following information, clearly printed on the nomination form.
 - a) Name of Nominator, School #, cell phone and email (must be member of the House of Delegates)
 - b) Name of Seconder, School #, cell phone and email (must be member of the House of Delegates)
 - c) Name of Nominee, cell phone and email
 - d) Category for which nominated

The nominator must submit the written nomination to Brian Hilton, Committee Secretary, before the close of the March Council of Delegates meeting for the nomination to be recognized by the Elections Committee. Appropriate nomination forms will be available from Brian Hilton at the meeting.

4. **Nominations sent through U.S. mail.** Nomination of candidates for election as officers of this Federation may also be submitted by a letter of intent signed by two members of the Council of Delegates. Such letter must be sent by certified mail, return receipt requested to the BTF office. This letter shall be addressed to Mary Favata, Elections Committee Chairperson; it shall be postmarked no earlier than Thursday, March 13, 2025 and no later than Thursday, March 27, 2025 and shall arrive no later than 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 1, 2025. Candidates nominated in this way are strongly advised to keep their receipts. Such candidates are also advised that the Elections Committee shall, in no way, be held accountable for inadequacies of the United States Postal System. Sample nomination forms may be found on the BTF website: www.btfny.org, Officers Elections tab.
5. **No acceptance forms will be provided.** No later than Friday, April 4, 2025, a list of all nominees shall be sent to each member nominated for office. **Candidates who wish to decline nomination shall submit a letter of declination prior to 4:45 p.m. on Thursday, April 10, 2025.**
6. a) **Anyone nominated in more than one Executive Office category must decline nomination in all but one category.**
b) **Anyone nominated in more than one Executive Committee category must decline nomination in all but one category. Failure to do so will result in being placed in the At-Large category.**
7. As nominations are received in the BTF office, Candidates shall receive a packet of information for use of the BTF *Provocator*. **Candidate statements and all advertisements shall be submitted no later than Wednesday, April 9, 2025 at 5:00 p.m.**
8. Positions on the ballot and *Provocator* shall be determined by lottery. There will be one lottery, establishing the category position on the ballot and the order of placement in the election issue of the *Provocator*. The lottery will take place at the BTF office at approximately 4:45 p.m. on Thursday, April 10, 2025 under the supervision of the Elections Committee. Each nominee may observe his or her position drawn by coming in person to watch.
9. Candidates will be listed by name only. No group affiliations will be designated on the ballot.
10. Any questions arising from interpretation or application of these rules must be submitted in writing to the Committee by certified mail, return receipt requested, or by email to Mary Favata mfavata541@gmail.com AND Brian Hilton brian14209@aol.com to arrive no later than ten (10) days after the March Council of Delegates meeting, that meeting date being March 13, 2025.
11. Any claim of misapplication of these rules must be filed, in writing, stating the specific misapplication to this committee within 48 hours of such alleged incident, by certified mail, return receipt requested or by email to Mary Favata mfavata541@gmail.com AND Brian Hilton brian14209@aol.com.
12. This committee will report the procedure for campaigns and elections at the March Council of Delegates meeting following the acceptance of nominations.