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President, PHILIP RUMORE

March 7, 2019

MEMO TO: Dr. Kriner Cash, Superintendent, BPS
Members, Buffalo Board of Education

FROM: Philip Rumore, President, BTF

RE: 2019-2020 School Calendar

The BTF has always worked with the District to develop a school calendar that closely matches the BOCES calendar and provides for additional snow days, by using the mid-winter break, as do the calendars in the surrounding districts. This year however, the District, instead of agreeing with us in January 2019 to extend the number of contractual weeks to forty-three (43) as in the past, is demanding that we agree to forty-four (44) weeks (Version A, [Click Here](#)) or you will impose a forty-two (42) week calendar (Version B, [Click Here](#)) with no mid-winter break and which does not closely reflect the calendars in surrounding districts.

As you realize, extending the number of weeks to forty-four (44) weeks will decrease teachers' paychecks as the salary will be spread out over not forty-two (42) or forty-three (43) weeks but forty-four (44) weeks.

The forty-four (44) week calendar will also have teachers begin on August 28, 2019. The last day for summer school scoring in 2018 was August 22!

In January 2019, we suggested the attached forty-three (43) week calendar (BPS School Calendar, Version C, [Click Here](#)); however, the District has rejected it advising us that, "the District is not interested in this option".

We ask that you reconsider your position so that we can, as we have in the past, have a calendar that closely matches that of the surrounding districts without having a greater impact on teachers' checks and that provides some time between summer school and the beginning of the new school year.

In order to adopt a calendar that spreads teachers' paychecks to the forty-three (43) weeks instead of forty-two (42) weeks but not forty-four (44) weeks and closely reflects the calendar in our surrounding districts, we again suggest the following calendar that mirrors the calendar we agreed to for this (2018-2019) school year.

Buffalo Public School 2019-2020 Calendar, Version C

Begin with Version A and make the following changes:

- Eliminate teacher Professional Development days on 8/28 and 8/29
- Make September 3rd a Professional Development day
- Make September 4th the teacher set-up day
- October 2nd stays a Professional Development day
- Students begin September 5th
- Make Wednesday before Thanksgiving (November 27th) a work day
- Make Friday before Memorial day (May 28th) a work day
- Make June 26th a Superintendent's Conference day

This calendar eliminates the November 27th pre-Thanksgiving day and the May 22nd pre-Memorial day recess days that were not in previous calendars.

Beginning school the last week in August adversely impacts teachers who teach summer school as it reduces the time between the end of summer school and the beginning of the new school year.

We look forward to adopting a school calendar that finds a common ground between the mandated 42 week calendar, one that is fair to our staff and that reflects the calendars of our surrounding districts as was done in the past.

cc: All Buffalo Teachers