

President PHILIP RUMORE



July 19, 2017

BUFFALO TEACHERS  
FEDERATION, INC

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MEMO TO: Darren J. Brown, Chief of Staff, BPS  
FROM: Philip Rumore, President, BTF  
RE: Your July 18, 2017 Correspondence

In response to your July 18, 2017 correspondence (attached), we will let our teachers and substitute teachers determine whether your/the District's "communications" are insulting. You might want to reread the June 21, 2017, June 22, 2017, July 11, 2017 and your latest July 18, 2017 correspondence. From what I have heard from teachers, they are insulted and angered by your and the District's actions.

As for you saying that:

- My statement that "Perhaps one of our elementary teachers can help your math skills" is insulting - you are either trying to add an un-negotiated extra ten (10) minutes onto some schedules or you can't add. Your statement is indeed insulting or you really do need help with your math skills.
- My statement that "You need to go back to the classroom" is insulting - I am sorry to hear that you find going back to the classroom "insulting".
- My statement that substitute teachers in "other districts have far better working conditions" is one of my statements that is "overflowing with opinion" - Yes, that is my opinion and that of many of our substitute teachers who teach here and in other districts. While it is obviously not your opinion, it remains mine as it relates to substitutes as well as our active teachers.

One of the things my mother taught me is to be truthful and stand up for others who are being mistreated. I make no apology for doing just that.


PR:su



**BUFFALO PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**Darren J. Brown, Chief of Staff**  
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Dr. Kriner Cash, Superintendent

**TO:** Phil Rumore, President – Buffalo Teachers Federation  
**FROM:** Darren J. Brown, Chief of Staff   
**DATE:** July 18, 2017  
**RE:** *More False and Misleading Statements by Darren Brown*

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Thank you for your correspondence dated July 18, 2017 – *More False and Misleading Statements by Darren Brown.*

In no way were the answers intended to be purposely misleading, they were intended to answer the questions sent to Principals by teachers – with the information the district has, and as we know it – no more, no less.

In your communication, you resort to insults – *“Perhaps one of our elementary teachers can help you with your math skills”*, and in another response you state *“You need to go back to the classroom”* and your responses are overflowing with opinion – *Substitute teachers in the “other districts” have far better working conditions...*

In no communication have I insulted you or attempted to diminish the value you bring to your organization. I have a great deal of respect for what you have done for the teachers in the city of Buffalo – my mother being a former teacher.

It is okay to have a difference of opinion, or not agree on how the questions are answered, however, I think it unprofessional that you resort to insults. This is exactly what we teach our students **not** to do...

While I disagree with your interpretation of the answers or your understanding of what was agreed to, I recognize that we will have to agree, to disagree.

DJB

