

President PHILIP RUMORE



August 22, 2014

BUFFALO TEACHERS
FEDERATION, INC

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BUFFALO, N.Y. 14201
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MEMO TO: Mr. Donald A. Ogilvie, Interim Superintendent
Members, Board of Education

FROM: Philip Rumore, President, BTF

RE: Lay-offs

The reasons for the teacher layoffs and the lateness of this notice make no sense. As per Article VII, the BTF requests the following information and the detailed calculations that resulted in the layoff of each of the approximately sixty-three teachers and any temporary teachers the District projects will not be rehired:

1. EXACTLY how did Pinnacle cause layoffs? Please indicate the number of teachers, by tenure area, at Pinnacle that resulted in teacher layoffs and temporary teachers not being rehired.
2. EXACTLY, how did Bennett cause layoffs? Please indicate the number of teachers, by tenure area, at Bennett that resulted in teacher layoffs and temporary teachers not being rehired.
3. The District has known about Bennett and Pinnacle as well as enrollment since at least June. Why then the late layoff notice to teachers?
4. We have been told that District enrollment was up by hundreds of students. Why then are there still layoffs? We have heard that the Special Ed. cuts in the approved balanced Board budget were the result of the report on BPS Special Ed. that was done by the Council of Great City Schools and never made public.
5. What specifically caused the change? Was it because the District plans to hire Teach for America candidates in Special Ed. and can't do so if there are layoffs in Special Ed. or other tenure areas? Why hasn't the study been made public?
6. How many Teach for America candidates will be hired and in which tenure area(s)?
7. A copy of the signed executed contract between the District and Teach for America.
8. A complete copy, with all attachments, of the document provided to the District by The Council of Great City Schools relating to the District's Special Education/Students with Disabilities programs.
9. The number of Temporary teachers, by tenure area, that are projected to not be rehired.
10. The teacher positions, by tenure area, that were reduced in the previously approved balanced Board budget and where said layoffs appear in the approved budget.
11. The Administrators' and Administrator positions eliminated in the approved budget and subsequent to that.
12. A list of the current and projected vacancies.

We assume that since this information is already available, we will receive it within 2 – 5 days. If that is not the case, please forward the information that is currently available and when we will receive the balance. Said information can, of course, be sent via email, when possible.

The BTF will reimburse the District for any copying costs. Thank you in advance for your prompt response to this request.

Thank you.

PR:ls

cc: Peter Applebee, NYSUT Research
Timothy Connick, NYSUT Legal