

President PHILIP RUMORE



**NEGOTIATIONS UPDATE**

BUFFALO TEACHERS  
FEDERATION, INC

271 PORTER AVENUE  
BUFFALO, N.Y. 14201  
(716) 881-5400  
FAX (716) 881-6678

February 25, 2015

MEMO TO: All Buffalo Teachers

FROM: Philip Rumore, President, BTF

RE: Negotiations Update

Both sides met on Tuesday, February 24 to review the Fact-Finder's Report. In most important areas, while there is no agreement as yet, there was agreement on what the Fact-Finder's recommendations were. We are seeking clarification on some of the wording with him.

While we realize that we have differences, there seems to be a desire to reach an agreement. The Fact-Finder's report that we spent many hours preparing for, is our starting point.

To review the Fact-Finder's Report go to [http://www.btfny.org/news/fact\\_finder\\_report.pdf](http://www.btfny.org/news/fact_finder_report.pdf), December 18, 2014.

We don't expect any real progress until the State budget is passed. The budget is usually completed by April 1st (yes, April Fool's Day).

As of now, the Governor has provided no school funding allocations; therefore, school districts cannot budget for next year. Remember he wants to tie funding to student test scores. In any event, the legislature usually adds additional revenue when they approve the budget.

Most local NYSUT presidents, along with NYSUT leadership and staff, will be in Albany on March 2nd and 3rd to lobby the legislature.

A copy of my written presentation at the meeting with the Western New York delegation will be posted once it is completed.

The following dates have been set for future negotiating sessions: April 20, 2015, April 27, 2015 and May 5, 2015.

We are in an excellent position with an apparent willingness on behalf of the District to reach a fair contract settlement.

It is critical that whatever forces are trying to divide us, do not succeed.

Our strength is in the District's perception of our continued solidarity.

PR:su