



Buffalo Teachers Federation, Inc.
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President PHILIP RUMORE

March 14, 2016

MEMO TO: All Buffalo Teachers
FROM: Philip Rumore, President, BTF
RE: Negotiations/Opt-out Update

NEGOTIATIONS:

The Superintendent and some current members of the Board of Education have apparently decided to stonewall our negotiations in hope of breaking our solidarity.

No surprise here.

We have, once again, corresponded with the New York State Public Employee Board (PERB) seeking their assistance and witness to the Superintendent's and Board's actions as we pursue our Improper Practice Charge against them (see Document I, Document II & Document III from the Council of Delegates meeting).

Obviously the May 3, 2016 Board of Education Elections are critical. The Council of Delegates has been briefed on the issues. We will need everyone's assistance if we are to elect pro-education, pro-student, pro-educator Board members. If you can volunteer, please email Becky Pordum, BTF Treasurer/Presidential Assistant at rpordum@btfny.org.

You will be receiving more information as the election nears.

OPT-OUT – NOTHING HAS REALLY CHANGED

The BTF Executive Committee and Council of Delegates unanimously passed the attached motion relating to the Opt-Out movement.

The 250,000 plus students that were part of last year's Opt-Out movement were instrumental in having the brutalizing anti-student, anti-education standardized tests put on hold and being shown for their damaging effects.

Do not believe that this battle has been won. That's what the money-making test companies and their friends would like you to believe.

In order to end this insanity, we want to have more (over 500,000) students opted-out of this year's tests.
Remember they begin on April 5, 2016.

Due to legal concerns, you should not advise your students or their parents to opt-out, you can if you so believe, opt your children out and encourage you family and friends to opt their children out.

One organization whose website you might want to visit is nysape.org.

We must end this institutionalized child abuse!

PR:su