

President PHILIP RUMORE



May 15, 2014

MEMO TO: Karen E. Magee, President, NYSUT

FROM: Philip Rumore, President, BTF

RE: Request for Legal Action

BUFFALO TEACHERS
FEDERATION, INC

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Once again congratulations on your election as our President, I have every confidence that you will continue your strong advocacy for all of us in the classrooms, hospitals, etc.

This will no doubt be a déjà vu moment; however, I am confident the result will be different with you as our President.

The BTF requests that NYSUT take all legal actions required to have the evaluations of teachers based on the already discredited common core assessments declared invalid and illegal.

Rather than wait for the Governor and/or Legislature to act and then believe we owe them, I believe that we should take the initiative and that we will prevail in court.

How can it be legal to evaluate teachers based upon tests that have been deemed inappropriate for evaluating the students, i.e. a teacher's evaluation is based upon the common core tests the students take, the tests are invalid for measuring student growth; therefore, teacher evaluations based on those invalid test results cannot possibly be valid measures of teacher effectiveness?

In addition to the current APPR process being insulting, unjust and having nothing to do with meaningful student growth, under the law, the APPR process is used to determine teacher promotions and teacher terminations.

What about equal protection, arbitrary and capricious, etc?

How can we possibly lose?

This is obviously different from the legal challenges being instituted for Rochester and Syracuse. This covers all of New York State.

We look forward to NYSUT's advocacy under our new leadership.

PR:su