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President, PHILIP RUMORE

March 20, 2017

MEMO TO: All Buffalo Teachers

FROM: Philip Rumore, President BTF

RE: Request for Information – Upcoming Arbitration Hearing  
BTF 13-064 / ACES Physical Education Program

In recent years, the District has found itself failing to meet the physical education requirements established by the New York State Education Department. To address that shortcoming, the District created the All Children Exercising Simultaneously (ACES) Program. Instead of providing students with the opportunity to experience physical education in the traditional gym setting with a certified physical education teacher, the ACES program requires classroom teachers to provide and/or supervise physical education lessons within their regular classroom.

When the District implemented the ACES program, the BTF filed grievance BTF 13-064 alleging that, among other things, the ACES program inappropriately requires teachers to teach outside of their area of certification and/or that the implementation of the ACES program resulted in a loss of core subject instructional time.

BTF 13-064 is now scheduled for an arbitration hearing in April 2017. To prepare for that hearing and to obtain the latest information related to the implementation and utilization of the ACES program, we are requesting that you contact the BTF with your thoughts, impressions, and feedback.

What concerns have you encountered because of the District's utilization/implementation of the ACES program?

How has the existence of the ACES program negatively impacted your teaching or the learning environment at your school?

**Any feedback you can provide would be greatly appreciated. Please send your feedback to the attention of Labor Relations Specialist, Nick Whitman. You may email your feedback to Mr. Whitman at [nwhitman@nysutmail.org](mailto:nwhitman@nysutmail.org) or fax it to Mr. Whitman's attention at (716) 881-6678.**