President, PHILIP RUMORE



Buffalo Teachers Federation, Inc. 271 Porter Avenue Buffalo, New York 14201 (716) 881-5400 www.btfny.org

April 28, 2017

MEMO TO: Buffalo Teachers

FROM: Philip Rumore, President, BTF

RE: Special Education Problems

Enough is more than enough. We cannot allow the District to continue to disregard the needs of our current and possibly future Special Education students.

- Identified and referred students left in regular classes for months.
- Understaffed Student Support Teams (SST).
- Student Support Team members being utilized for school student discipline problems and other non-SST required functions taking much needed time from evaluating students for placement.
- Identified students being inappropriately placed in less restrictive classes in an apparent attempt to save money rather than meet the students' needs.
- A one-inch stack of documents for teachers to complete to refer a student for testing.

Once again, we ask for your assistance for our students.

Please email examples, problems/concerns relating to the inadequate provision of special education services to: sumhauer@btfny.org. Include your name (we will not use it without your permission), school, and contact information.

We will be forwarding these issues directly to NYSED.

I know this is, as always, a busy time. If possible, please forward your response as soon as possible (before May 15th) so that we can take action with NYSED.

Thank you in advance for your assistance.

You're the very best.

PR:1s