

President PHILIP RUMORE



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**BTF Computer Problems:**

**Our computers crashed this weekend resulting in an incorrect (draft) email relating to the SLO's being distributed. Please disregard the previous email.**

**MEMO TO:** All Buffalo Teachers

**FROM:** Philip Rumore, President, BTF

**RE:** SLOs

In presentations at the Council of Delegates meetings and in other meetings with teachers, I have made an SLO suggestion that some have asked that I forward.

One of the difficulties is projecting student growth/achievement on the “post test” because we can never know what will be on the post test or how difficult it may be. For example, this year’s Physics exam might be completely new and much more difficult in comparison with last year’s (viz. last year’s Common Core fiasco).

For example, to address this problem, what if I state that I am going to use the average of how my students do on the Regents as my starting point and project student growth/achievement based on that average.

I would state that,

Phil is going to score 20% higher (or 15 points higher) than the class average on the Physics Regents – Hey, that was my favorite subject and my major in college!!

John K is going to score 60% lower (or 60 points lower) than the class average. (I’m giving him a huge benefit of a doubt.)

In this way, regardless of what the post test is, I have built some reality into my projections.

Elementary teachers could use a similar approach.

I could state that I am going to take the average of my students’ improvement (growth) or scores in each category e.g.

- average or amount of student growth from 1 to 2 (e.g. from 1 to 1.2),
- average or amount of student growth from 2 to 3 (e.g. from 2.5 to 2.7),
- average or amount of student growth from 3 to 4 (e.g. from 3 to 3.1).

It seems that each category should be used individually as it may be different for a student going from 1 to 2 than 2 to 3, etc.

In October you could state that Bob will score .2 higher than the average student's growth in category 1.

In June:

Bob went from 1.5 to 1.8,  
JK went from 1.0 to 1.1,  
CP went from 1.0 to 1.1,

That means  $.3 + .1 + .1 = .5 / 3 = .166$  average growth in category 1.

Therefore Bob scored .034 higher then you predicted.

**-or-**

In October, you could state that Bob will score .2 higher than the average student's score in category 1.  
Using the same scores:

That means  $1.8 + 1.1 + 1.1 = 4 / 3 = 1.333$  average in category 1.

Therefore Bob scored .47 higher then you predicted.

I wanted to share this concept with you so that you can consider it, something like it, or modify it as you develop your SLOs and LMAs.

**REMEMBER, YOU MUST AGREE WITH YOUR SLO AND LMA BEFORE YOU SIGN OFF.  
YOU CANNOT BE FORCED TO SIGN IT. KEEP A SIGNED COPY.  
PLEASE SEE THE BTF WEBSITE - [BTFNY.ORG/NEWS&ALERTS](http://BTFNY.ORG/NEWS&ALERTS) AND APPR TAB.**

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