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September 11, 2014

MEMO TO: All Buffalo Teachers
FROM: Philip Rumore, President, BTF
RE: Solidarity, Solidarity, Solidarity

The hundreds of Buffalo teachers picketing before Wednesday's Board meeting sent a clear and unequivocal message to the District and public. If there was ever any doubt about Buffalo teachers' solidarity, let this demonstration put that to rest.

Joining us on the picket line was Martin Messner, NYSUT Secretary Treasurer; Sonia Basko, Director of NYSUT Special Projects (both drove from Albany to join us to offer support); Dan Cunningham, President of the Buffalo Professional Firefighters Association; Kevin Rustowicz, President of the Niagara Wheatfield Teachers Association and NYSUT Board of Directors member; John Mrozek, member of the NYSUT Board of Directors and former President of Hamburg Teachers Association; Marcus Latham, President and Dean Melson, Secondary Director of Niagara Falls Teachers; Mike Deely, NYSUT Regional Director; Marc Panepinto, our endorsed candidate for New York State Senate; New York State Senator Tim Kennedy; retired teachers and others. Now that I have started mentioning names, I apologize for forgetting some that were there.

We have had this tremendous show of solidarity, and so we will be modifying the informational picketing at schools. It will take place on the Wednesdays on which there is a formal Board of Education meeting. The scheduled dates are September 24th, October 8th and October 22nd.

Some on the Board and in the District believe that Buffalo teachers will lose our resolve and stop the informational picketing. Yes, they are watching. How wrong they are!

By now, they should know we are united and strong.

Stay tuned.

At the request of teachers, below is a copy of my presentation to the Board at Wednesday's meeting.

PR:su

[Negotiations Presentation to the Board of Education](#)