



Buffalo Teachers Federation, Inc.
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President, PHILIP RUMORE

March 3, 2017

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

Opt-Out

As you know, the BTF is in strong support of the Opt-Out movement to protect our children from what I call “institutionalized child abuse.” While there is a brief moratorium on some testing, the use of the age-inappropriate, unvalidated, instructional time-wasting, and often demoralizing tests can only end if more parents refuse to subject their children to them.

While teachers should not counsel the parents of their students to opt-out, they can, if asked, refer them to our website www.btfny.org for information on the opt-out movement. Teachers are also encouraged to consider having their own children and those of their friends and relatives opt-out.

Progress against these insidious tests has been made as a result of NYSUT and parents across New York State taking action. The testing begins in March. Let the battle against institutionalized child abuse continue.

Teacher Transfers

While we continue to work with the District to investigate a different transfer process, the current transfer process and current transfer deadline remain in effect.

If you are thinking of seeking a transfer, your transfer request must be postmarked by March 23, 2017. See Article XIV of the BTF Contract.

You may use the attached Sample letter ([click here](#)). Remember, you can always decline a transfer if you choose not to transfer or if none of the available positions are satisfactory to you.

BTF Computer Upgrades

We have met with the second recommended company. They have begun an analysis of our problems and

will be re-visiting to develop a comprehensive plan to move us into the 22nd century.

Teachers being asked to assume responsibility for Student Computers

We have just received a document that teachers are being told to sign. The document seeks to make teachers responsible for student laptops! We have not agreed to any such document. Please do not sign until it has been approved by the BTF.

Computer Voting

As you have heard from your delegates who were briefed by the Elections Committee at our last meeting, we are finally going to have an election via the internet.

The company suggested by the Elections Committee has been in this business since 1990. Information relating to the company and process will be sent to you by the Elections Committee as they proceed.

While it may not save money, it will be well worth having more teachers participate in the election.

PR:su