



Buffalo Teachers Federation, Inc.
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President, PHILIP RUMORE

August 29, 2018

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

ADMINISTRATORS' CHALLENGE TO OUR APPR

The administrators lost the arbitration challenging our APPR. Among other issues, they wanted to be able to evaluate teachers in September, did not want one postponement of the unannounced observation, wanted to be able to evaluate teachers the day before Halloween, etc.

While BTF testified in the arbitration, the arbitrator found that they had passed the deadline for filing the grievance and it was therefore untimely.

Our APPR stands.

TEACH FOR AMERICA

The BTF is investigating complaints from teachers that Teach for America candidates are being hired before current Buffalo teachers receive appointments. If you believe that this has happened to you, please call the BTF. We understand that there have been posts on social media relating to this. Posting on Facebook, Twitter, etc. is not helpful. Indeed, we could, as have the administrators above, lose a grievance on timeliness if we do not promptly file a grievance. If you are aware of any infraction or problem, please call us so that action can be taken in a timely manner to avoid losing a grievance.

Also, I have seen messages from teachers disparaging Teach for America teachers. Teach for America teachers employed by the District are BTF members and our colleagues and we should not disparage them.

There are concerns relating to the Teach for America program. We should not disparage the participants who are our members.

NEW MEMBERS

We have made a presentation to approximately 100 "new" teachers. Please take the time to welcome them to your school. They are excited to meet you and work with you.

NEW BTF MATERIALS

New calendars, student award certificates, President's Reports, etc. are being packaged and will be delivered to your school as they are completed.

More information will be forthcoming.

PR:su