

President's Report

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March 2013

APPR UPDATE

An updates and greatly condensed version of the APPR has been completed. It is in a Q & A format with examples of how each section is computed (www.btfny.org – APPR Tab) We have also sent 3 copies to each school.

The Council of Delegates was briefed on the APPR using this document.

Questions that continue to be asked are:

- Q. Will the legislation that was passed for New York City, wherein if there isn't an approved APPR, the issues go to binding arbitration with the Commissioner of Education making the decision, be applied to other districts?
- A. The New York State Senate has amended the legislation to include all school districts in New York State. We will continue to oppose it. Will similar legislation ultimately pass? We will see.
- Q. What has been negotiated?
- A. The APPR Document, The MOU relating to the APPR, and the appeals process (see www.btfny.org – APPR Tab)
- Q. Will there still be pressure on the District to come to an agreement if the APPR is rejected?
- A. Since they will have lost the \$30 million State aid increase, that leverage will obviously no longer exist for us.
- Q. If the District loses the \$30 million as a result of the APPR being rejected, will they take it out of the \$60 million set aside for negotiations?
- A. That is what they have said they will do.
- Q. Why not tie our approval to a new contract or putting us on step?
- A. The District has already advised us that they will not agree to that and that they are not going to commit millions in expenses without an agreement on some their contract proposals.

-O-V-E-R-

- Q. What will happen with the ruling of a judge that New York City can't have its funding denied?
- A. Our attorneys advised us that once New York State files a notice of an appeal, the Preliminary Injunction will be lifted thereby preventing the New York City schools from receiving the State Aid increase. The case will then go through the courts up to the New York State Court of Appeals (about 1 year).
- Q. Do you recommend approval?
- A. Yes. Both the Executive Committee and I recommend support for the APPR. Once you read through the documents, the Condensed Summary/Overview, MOU and the Appeals Process, we believe you will agree that it provides many favorable protections.
- Q. If the APPR is rejected, do we have to start all over or from what we have in the APPR, Appeals Process & MOU?
- A. We will start over.

While there are obviously other important considerations, your decision should be based upon whether you believe the APPR, MOU and Appeals Process provide you with the necessary protections to be evaluated fairly and if not evaluated fairly, with the protections to undo an unfair evaluation.

FIRST BOOK

Per our email, some of the free books from First Book have been sent out to schools. Some schools have already received them .

\$300,000 GRANT

We have not received word pertaining to the \$300,000 public relations grant for which we have applied. It is designed to highlight the good things that teachers are doing in our schools.

TEACHER OF THE MONTH

We are looking for partners (public/private) to fund a teacher of the month program. A teacher will be spotlighted on one of (or more) our local TV stations. BTF and Buffalo State along with the Sponsor will select the teachers who will be highlighted many times during the month.