

# President's Report

PHILIP RUMORE, PRESIDENT



## ***BUFFALO TEACHERS FEDERATION***

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*www.BTFNY.org*

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### ***TEACHER TRANSFERS***

The BTF has not agreed to resume the flawed and insulting transfer process used last year.

The District, as if this writing, has agreed to two (2) BTF Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs). We are awaiting the signature of the Superintendent.

The first MOU, for this year only, will prevent reapplication by the few teachers who, as per the District, applied for a transfer online via the portal. They will not have to reapply in writing.

The second MOU clarifies how part-time positions are handled.

- “1. If there is more than one part-time teacher in the same tenure area at the school and a full-time position is created, the part-time teacher with the greatest seniority shall have the contractual right to the full-time position.
2. If a portion of a full-time position [an itinerant position], eg. a teacher teaching .4 at one school and a .6 at another school, is increased to a full-time position at one or both of those schools, the contract or probationary teacher in that tenure area serving in one of those part-time positions shall have the contractual right to move to the new full-time position or if both are increased to full-time, the teacher will have the contractual right to the full-time position at the school of their choice.
3. If a part-time and a full-time position exist at a school and the full-time position becomes vacant, the contract or probationary teacher filling the part-time position does not have an automatic contractual right to move to that full-time position. The position is considered a vacancy and must be filled by a teacher on the transfer list or as otherwise specified in the CBA.
4. If a full time position is cut to a .8, but is paired with a .2 position the teacher who was previously full-time shall have first refusal rights for the newly created itinerant position or be placed on the transfer list.”

**Transfers must be as per the contract, Article XIV, pg. 30-33.**

### ***UNEMPLOYMENT***

If you believe that you might not have a position in September, you should apply for unemployment insurance. Please remember that temporary teachers should be rehired each year by the Board if positions are available. Some temporary teachers, in previous summers, have received a certified letter from the District that indicates in part, that it expects to be able to employ you next year. This letter is sometimes referred to as a “reasonable assurance letter”.

In the past, this letter has been used by the District in an attempt to prevent temporary teachers, who might be eligible for unemployment insurance, from receiving unemployment benefits. If you receive such a letter, and believe you will probably not be rehired, fax a copy to BTF at 881-6678.

If you apply for unemployment compensation benefits, believe you are eligible, and are turned down, appeal the determination, ask for a hearing and continue to report. List the BTF as your representative. Call us when you receive notice of a hearing date.

**UNEMPLOYMENT  
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If you receive benefits and you are subsequently found to be ineligible, benefits are not recoverable unless you withheld information. A question asked is "Have you received any verbal or written POSSIBILITY of a job in September?" If you have received the "reasonable assurance letter" and you answer the question with a "no", you are considered to be withholding information. Also, you will be withholding information if you subsequently receive the "reasonable assurance letter" and do not report this fact to the Unemployment Office. If you have additional questions, please call your Labor Relations Specialist at the BTF.

**TEMPORARY  
TEACHER SUMMER  
BC/BS**

Temporary teachers who worked at least 100 days, are on the payroll on the last day of school and who have not been terminated based on an evaluation, are entitled to health coverage during the summer lay-off.

**HEALTHCARE  
LAID-OFF  
TEACHERS**

If you receive a termination notice from your health care provider, call the BTF so that we can determine your status. In any event, all temporary teachers continue to be covered by the SBF during the summer months for SBF dental, optical, and prescription benefits. As always, SBF forms must be completed for reimbursement.

Contract and probationary teachers who are laid off, but are subsequently rehired, are entitled to be reimbursed for health care benefits during the time of layoff. (See Article XXVI (2) Section A-8 on page 71, lines 39-42 of your contract.)

**EXTENDED PAY  
PLAN SIGN-UP**

Many Buffalo teachers have joined the BTF Extended Pay Plan to have their pay spread out over the summer months.

If you would like information regarding the Extended Pay Plan, see your Delegate Chairperson. Information is also available in the BTF Delegate Handbook in your building. Enrollment cards are available from your delegate or from the BTF and are due by Friday, June 22, 2018. Reminder – we strongly suggest that you sign up for direct deposit to receive your extended pay plan funds.

**ATTENTION  
TEMPORARY  
TEACHERS**

Temporary teachers who have lost pay during this school year due to lack of sick days are reminded that they may apply to use any sick time they have since accumulated to obtain pay for those days. You must submit a written request to the Payroll department.

**SUMMER OFFICE  
HOURS**

Once again this summer, BTF will be open from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Any changes will be emailed to you. Keep up-to-date via the BTF website, [www.btfny.org](http://www.btfny.org).

**SOLIDARITY**

**AS A DEMONSTRATION OF CONTINUED SOLIDARITY, WE ARE ASKING ALL TEACHERS TO WEAR THEIR BTF SHIRTS AND/OR SOLIDARITY PINS/STICKERS ON THE LAST DAY OF SCHOOL.**

**EMAIL REQUEST**

The BTF is looking to update our personal e-mail list. Please e-mail [dstepniak@btfny.org](mailto:dstepniak@btfny.org) with your personal e-mail address. There will be periodic updates on significant issues during the summer and you don't want to miss them. BTF does not communicate using your BPS e-mail address.

**SUMMER  
REMINDER**

**WHEN SOMEONE ASKS YOU HOW YOU ARE ENJOYING YOUR "SUMMER VACATION", REMIND THEM THAT THE CHILDREN ARE ON "SUMMER VACATION" – TEACHERS ARE LAID OFF. NOT ENOUGH PEOPLE KNOW IT IS NOT A PAID VACATION FOR TEACHERS IN THE SUMMER, BUT RATHER TWO MONTHS WITHOUT PAY. LET US CONTINUE USING THE TERM SUMMER "LAY-OFF" AND MAYBE THEY WILL GET THE MESSAGE.**