



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Press Release

February 5, 2015



**BTF TO GOVERNOR CUOMO -  
GET THE FACTS BEFORE YOUR VINDICTIVE ATTACKS**

The BTF, in response to Governor Cuomo's disparaging statements relating to the Buffalo Public Schools, today issued the following statement by BTF President Phil Rumore:

"Governor Cuomo, you should get the facts before your vindictive attacks on our students and staff!

Your recent attacks that singled out the Buffalo Public Schools, when on all significant measures, we are out-performing all but two of the "Big 5" cities (Rochester, Syracuse, Yonkers, New York City, Buffalo), demonstrates your continued vendetta against us.

BTF documentation demonstrates that the Buffalo Public School are out-performing all but two (Yonkers and New York City) of the "Big 5" city school Districts on Graduation Rates, Regents Diploma Advanced Designation, Transferred to GED and New York State Test Scores (attached).

"Are we satisfied with these indicators? Of course not."

We remind the Governor that unlike the more affluent districts, we are one of the poorest cities in the country with students coming from neighborhoods where they can't go outside for fear of drug dealers or shootings; we have a very large percentage of students with disabilities; we have a large percentage of students speaking little or no English and the Contract for Excellence funding that resulted from New York State being found guilty of underfunding poor school districts was cut by your administration.

Continue your vendetta of revenge for our lack of endorsement if that gives you satisfaction, but at least get the facts first," Rumore concluded.

Enc. Tables (3)

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