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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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BTF CALLS FOR THE REMOVAL OF DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR(S) IN CHARGE OF THE DISTRICT'S "REOPENING COMMITTEE", THE ENDING OF SECRECY, REAL INVOLVEMENT OF STAKEHOLDERS AND A STATE INVESTIGATION OF DISTRICT'S PROCEDURES

"Unlike school districts across Erie County, who have made reopening plans available to their stakeholders and community, held virtual community meetings and worked with all stakeholders to develop a reopening plan for their schools, the Buffalo Public School District:

- **Shrouded its "plans" in secrecy by first labeling them "Confidential" and then two (2) days before they were to be submitted to the Governor, refused to allow the "District Reopening Committee", Stakeholders, and public see them!**

The Committee was told by Darren Brown that trust was violated when the last "confidential" draft was distributed. The BTF made them public.

- Has had only six (6) meetings
 - 6/2/20 - 1 hour
 - 6/16/20 - 1 hour 20 minutes – Elementary subcommittee
 - 6/16/20 - 1 hour 30 minutes – Secondary subcommittee
 - 7/20/20 - 1 hour 30 minutes
 - 7/23/20 - 1 hour 30 minutes
 - 7/27/20 - 2 hours
 - 7/29/20 - 1 hour 30 minutes

The District made oral presentations. No documents were distributed. **The Elementary and Secondary subcommittees have not met since 6/16/20.**

- Just established new subcommittees on July 27, 2020.
 - Academics
 - Scheduling
 - Social Emotional Learning
 - Transportation

- Special Education
- Multilingual
- Technology
- Health and Safety

They have not, as yet, met. !!

Note: We have been informed that the school engineers, whose expertise and experience is critical to the sanitization of the schools, were not asked to participate on the “reopening committee”.

This District’s secrecy, lack of involvement of stakeholders and lack of time devoted to develop a safe reopening plan for our schools that will, if done incorrectly, result in the loss of lives or severe physical injury, as well as undermining the education of our students, **is a betrayal of trust and its responsibilities to our community.**

The BTF therefore calls for the removal of District administrator(s) in charge of the District’s “Reopening Committee”, the ending of secrecy, the real involvement of stakeholders and a State investigation of District’s procedures”, BTF President, Philip Rumore, stated.