

**COUNCIL OF DELEGATES
AGENDA**

March 24, 2022

MEETING

CALL TO ORDER

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – [Click Here](#)

TREASURER’S REPORT – [Click Here](#)

VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT

School Board Elections

MOTION:

Moved that the BTF oppose A3043 introduced by Assemblyperson Crystal Peoples-Stokes. It would increase the number of Buffalo Board of Education members from nine (9) to eleven (11). One additional member would be appointed by the Mayor. The second one would be approved by the Buffalo Common Council.

Moved: Philip Rumore Second: Rebecca Pordum

MOTION:

Moved that the BTF support A9423 introduced by Assemblyperson Crystal Peoples-Stokes, which would decrease the number of signatures, required to run for the Buffalo Board of Education:

- From 1,000 to 400 to run at-large
- From 500 to 200 to run for one of the six (6) district seats

Moved: Philip Rumore Second: Rebecca Pordum

Note: Not only have our candidates had difficulty collecting signatures, but more candidates splitting the vote makes it easier for a candidate with strong support to get elected (e.g. BTF, BEST, etc.).

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

I. NEGOTIATIONS

- PERB Mediator to Schedule Dates
- BTF Solidarity Day – Wednesdays
 - That is when the Board has either official meetings or work sessions. Wear BTF logo. If you need BTF “Stickers”, call BTF. We have some available.
- Have two (2) Improper Practice Charges against the District with PERB
 - Bad Faith Bargaining – Refusal to schedule bargaining sessions with BTF for almost five (5) months. Refused to negotiate ground rules calling for scheduling two (2) future negotiating dates. Case heard by PERB February 2021 still no decision.

- Regressive Bargaining – BTF agreed to one of the District’s counter proposals. Later the District stated it was no longer proposing it. Conference scheduled with PERB in April.
- BTF Solidarity Rally – We will be holding an all teacher solidarity rally before the next scheduled Board of Education meeting on April 20, 2022. The place (since it’s not certain at this time) will be announced as will the time.
- Resolution – Insulting and Demeaning Superintendent/Board contract proposal. ([Document I](#))

Moved: Philip Rumore Second: Rebecca Pordum

II. SCHOOL SAFETY/SECURITY

Once the Superintendent received the first set of safety concerns, she, as you may have read, began to take action to address them. We have now forwarded the latest BTF school safety survey to the Superintendent, Board, you and media. We will be forwarding it to NYSED and the Federal Department of Education. We will continue to survey schools.

MOTION:

WHEREAS: Violence, anger and disruptive behaviors are harmfully infecting our students/children, and

WHEREAS: It is critical that we realize that the resulting and too-often fatal incidents in our schools and on our school grounds are occurring across the United States, and

WHEREAS: This is a National Crisis involving the well-being of our children that must immediately be addressed by the President and Congress of the United States as well as other relevant agencies.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the BTF will take the following action(s):

- Seek through correspondence, email, petitioning and other appropriate methods, the support of NYSUT, NEA, AFT, our State and Federal legislators, and all other critical people and organizations, to ensure safety in our schools (which extends into the communities) for the following:
 - Earmarked Federal funding for school counselors, school psychologists, school social workers, school attendance teachers, etc. with a defined caseload, e.g. 120/1.
 - Earmarked Federal funding to provide sufficient security personnel who will also be trained to gain the confidence of students to relate any concerns.
 - Earmarked Federal funding for community organizations that have experience working with students to prevent acts of violence and disruption.
 - Earmarked Federal funding to provide metal detectors for any District /School that needs them, without taking away from students’ other educational needs/programs.
 - De-escalating techniques for all staff and parents.
 - Other critical school security needs identified by a school district.

Moved: Philip Rumore Second: Rebecca Pordum

III. 2022-2023 SCHOOL CALENDAR

- [Calendar A \(Click Here\)](#) – 43 Week Calendar

Moved that BTF enter into an MOU that reflects Calendar A, 43 weeks

Moved: Second:

- [Calendar B \(Click Here\)](#) – 42 Week Calendar

Moved that BTF enter into an MOU that reflects Calendar B, 42 weeks

Moved: Second:

IV. NEW PAYROLL SYSTEM

- We have filed a grievance.
- Sent District list of problems/concerns – District Reply ([Document II](#))

V. SUPPORT FOR UKRAINE

The Buffalo Teacher Federation has been working with NYSUT to arrange a method for our members to assist the over 3 million refugees that have been forced to flee Ukraine and the Ukrainians that have continue to remain in their country. The link below will enable you to donate as a BTF member to the NYSUT disaster relief fund. All donations will be credited to BTF and will go directly to the American Red Cross to assist the Ukrainian people during this time of war.

Click Here to donate: <https://nysut.cc/btfrelief>

Your generosity is one reason that makes our Union strong

MOTION:

Move that BTF contribute \$5,000 from its reserves to the BTF/NYSUT relief fund for the Red Cross to provide assistance to the people of Ukraine.

Moved: Philip Rumore

Second: Rebecca Pordum

VI. FUTURE MEETING DATES

Council of Delegates at the Grapevine

- April 28, 2022
- June 16, 2022

Retirement Dinner at Salvatore's

- May 18, 2022, Brief Council of Delegates meeting

Council of Delegates' Retirement Dinner Reservation Form ([Click Here](#))

VII. OLD BUSINESS

VIII. OTHER LATE ITEMS

IX. ADJOURNMENT