

President PHILIP RUMORE



June 18, 2020

BUFFALO TEACHERS
FEDERATION, INC.

271 PORTER AVENUE
BUFFALO, N.Y. 14201
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MEMO TO: Buffalo Teachers

FROM: Philip Rumore

RE: Updates

THOUGHT FOR TODAY

- Remind yourself that it's okay to not be perfect.
- Make time for yourself.
- Can an Atheist get insurance Against Acts of God?

2020-21 SCHOOL CALENDAR

The BTF Council of Delegates has overwhelmingly approved Calendar "A", the calendar with the February Recess (see attached).

We have been advised that the Board approved it at its meeting on Wednesday, June 17, 2020.

DETRIMENTAL SPECIAL EDUCATION ACTIONS?

We have been informed that the District is changing all/most 6:1:1 classes to 8:1:1 classes and possibly other such harmful actions.

Our Special Education students are among those hurt the most during this prolonged pandemic. If this is correct, it shows District callousness beyond belief no, unfortunately it's not beyond belief.

Please advise us of any such despicable actions. lsauer@btfny.org or sumhauer@btfny.org.

SCHOOL "OPENING"

The number one issue is the SAFETY of students, staff and parents.

We will continue to monitor all "re-opening" plans and ask that you do also. Please report any issues that have arisen and do so in the future.

While “contact”, masks, etc. are critical concerns, so too is the cleanliness of our buildings. We must ensure that our engineers and their employees have the equipment and number of employees necessary to ensure the safety of all those entering the building.

The District committees, with six (6) teachers appointed by BTF representing various areas, discussing “re-opening” have been asked to include this as one of many issues that must be addressed.

On developing a plan, our position is that all concerned must be at the table and their input not just heard but included.

Any plan(s) should be provided to all concerned for input and action well before they are implemented.

All plans must be under consistent review with input and actions based upon continued review and updating. They must also be approved by state and local authorities.

Once committees are in operation, we will be seeking your input. We will also be ensuring that the committee(s) see your input and act upon it.

OVERAGES

Overage documents can be delivered to BTF headquarters and placed through the mail slot, or mailed to: **BTF, 271 Porter Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14201**. Please indicate “Overages” on outside of the envelope.

STUDENT GRADES

We continue to hear important concerns relating to the District policy for the grading of students. Many consider it unfair, e.g.

- Students that had a great turmoil in one of the periods.
- Students with no access to virtual/media instructions.
- etc.

Please advise us of what you believe should be corrected and how.

SICK LEAVE BANK

In order to join or make changes to the Sick Leave Bank, the actual cards must be used and returned to the BTF.

Please contact Isauer@btfny.org or sumhauer@btfny.org with your name and address and the cards will be mailed to you. If you are driving by BTF headquarters and see a car in the driveway, you can knock on the door. Hopefully, we will hear you.

You can then either mail them to: BTF, 271 Porter Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14201 or put them through the mail slot in the door at BTF.

BTF HEADQUARTERS

As you know, the BTF office has limited space and, to ensure safety, has been closed.

Fortunately, our great staff has been receiving your concerns and acting on issues. Staff, periodically, work in an office and pick up materials and documents. There is, often, one person in the building to check the mail and coordinate messages.

We are considering opening the building within the next two – three weeks on a rotating basis. Access will be based on an appointment(s). Safety will be observed e.g., distancing / masks, etc.

We have placed antiviral air purifiers in the building, are having antiviral UV lights installed in our heating/cooling systems, making masks and gloves available, providing sanitizing soaps and wipes, having the office periodically cleansed, etc.

We will notify you when our initial re-opening plan is in place.

Thank you for your patience as we all work through and overcome this deadly pandemic.

Please stay healthy - - Take no chances.

LATE ITEM: We just received notification that, in addition to New York State declaring tomorrow, June 19, 2020 a holiday for its employees in recognition of Juneteenth, NYSUT has also done same for its staff.

We are checking whether similar action will be taken by the “Governor” for schools.

Stay tuned

PR:ls

2020-2021 BUFFALO CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT CALENDAR (DRAFT A)

JULY 2020

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

JANUARY 2021

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

**Teacher Days/Days Students are in Attendance

Month	Tchr.	PK-8*	H.S.*	Month	Tchr.	PK-8*	H.S.*
Sept	21	17	17	Feb	15	15	15
Oct	21	21	21	Mar	23	23	23
Nov	17	17	17	April	16	15	15
Dec	17	17	17	May	20	19	19
Jan	19	19	15	June	19	18	11
Totals:	95	91	87	Totals:	93	90	83

AUGUST 2020

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

FEBRUARY 2021

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

Total **Teacher** Days: 188

Total **Actual Student** Days: PK-8= 181 HS= 170

Credited Student Days: 185 (incl. 4 Supt. Conf. Days)

IMPORTANT DATES

July

3 Independence Day (central office also closed)

September

1-3 Sup't Conf. Days (Professional Development)

4 Teacher Set-up Day

7 Labor Day (central office also closed)

8 First Day of Classes

October

12 Indigenous Peoples' and Italian-Heritage Day (central Office also closed)

November

3 Election Day (central office also closed)

11 Veterans Day (central office also closed)

26, 27 Thanksgiving Recess (central office also closed)

December

24-31 Winter Recess

24, 25 Central Office Also Closed

January

1 New Year's Day (central office also closed)

18 M.L. King Jr. Day (central office also closed)

26-29 NYS Regents Exams (high school)

February

15 President's Day (central office also closed)

16-19 Mid-winter recess

April

2-9 Spring Recess

2, 5 Central Office Also Closed

21-22 NYS ELA Testing (grades 3-8)

28 Early Release Day

29 Sup't. Conf. Day

May

5-6 NYS Math Testing (grades 3-8)

12 Early Release Day

13 Sup't. Conf. Day

31 Memorial Day (central office also closed)

June

16-24 NYS Regents Exams (high school)

24 Last Day of Classes

25 Rating Day/Sup't. Conf. Day

SEPTEMBER 2020

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

MARCH 2021

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

OCTOBER 2020

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

APRIL 2021

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

NOVEMBER 2020

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

MAY 2021

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

DECEMBER 2020

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

JUNE 2021

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

H.S. Regents Exams

3-8 NYS Testing

Schools Closed

Central Office Also Closed

Sup't. Conference Day

Early Release Day

*Per past practice, student attendance is not taken on Sup't. Conf. Days (4/29, 5/13) or H.S. Regents Exam Days (1/26-1/29; 6/16-6/24) for H.S.