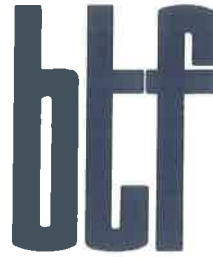


President PHILIP RUMORE



September 1, 2022

BUFFALO TEACHERS  
FEDERATION, INC

271 PORTER AVENUE  
BUFFALO, N.Y. 14201  
(716) 881-5400  
FAX (716) 881-6678

**MEMO TO:** Dr. Tonja M. Williams, Superintendent, BPS  
Members, Board of Education

**FROM:** Philip Rumore, President, BTF

**RE:** August 31, 2022 Special Board Meeting

In response to the attempt to keep me, as President of the Buffalo Teachers Federation, from addressing you, enclosed please find a copy of our Contract. You will note that the section with which you have apparently been provided, "H - Board Agenda", refers to being "given an early place on the agenda of any regular meeting of the Board" (emphasis added).

Whereas "I - Board input" refers to "expressing Federation viewpoints concerning matters on the agenda or motions before the Board affecting teachers in general or matters incorporated in this Contract" (emphasis added), there is no reference to "regular" meeting. This provides an opportunity for dialogue and input from your teachers. As many of you know, that although not required, I try to advise you a day or more prior to a meeting of the issue(s) I will be addressing. Indeed, there have been times when something has come up during a meeting on which we have had a productive dialogue.

Since being President of the BTF, no one at any Board meeting has ever attempted to prevent me from relating the viewpoints/concerns of Buffalo teachers to the Superintendent and Board. Indeed, I have previously addressed the Superintendent and Board at special sessions.

No one has ever attempted to misinterpret the contract to prevent me from relating the viewpoints of teachers to the Superintendent and Board.

Why now? We think we know why.

We appreciate your decision to do what is right and correct in the face of one-sided incorrect information.

In addition, we hereby request a copy of the actions taken at this meeting approving increased compensation for employees. Please also provide us with the salaries of the exempt employees listed that were in effect in June 2018.

Dr. Tonja M. Williams, Superintendent, BPS  
Members, Board of Education

September 1, 2022  
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Just as for your teachers, we support paying your exempt employees salaries commensurate with other districts to retain them and a teachers contract that will do just that.

Enclosed please find a copy of correspondence that was going to be mailed yesterday and which I addressed at the Board Meeting.

PR:fs  
cc: All Buffalo Teachers  
Encl: 1