



Buffalo Teachers Federation, Inc.
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President, PHILIP RUMORE

April 17, 2019

MEMO TO: Dr. Kriner Cash, Superintendent, BPS
Members, Buffalo Board of Education

FROM: Philip Rumore, President, BTF

RE: School Calendar Update

Although, as stated in previous correspondence, our BTF Council of Delegates overwhelmingly supported the forty-three (43) week calendar, some Board Members have reported that Darren Brown and/or other District administrators have stated teachers supported the forty-four (44) week calendar.

That you believe this is unfortunate.

On Tuesday, we once again asked teachers at each site to survey members so that you would once again know the wishes of your teachers.

Due to the short turnaround time, Tuesday, April 16th and Wednesday, April 17th, not all schools could report by Wednesday.

The results as of today, Wednesday, April 17th at 1:00 p.m. (more schools will be reporting after school) are as follows:

- Twenty-five (25) support the forty-three (43) week calendar.
- Six (6) or support the forty-four (44) week calendar.

The teachers, as many times in the past, have agreed to a forty-three (43) week calendar.

Why all of a sudden the Board should make this an issue, is troubling.

Indeed, in response to correspondence addressed to the Superintendent and Board, apparently speaking for you, Darren Brown states, “Again, the 43-week calendar is not under consideration for the reasons I have expressed in prior communications.” (emphasis added). There has been no compelling reason for your refusal.

The Superintendent and Board are not even considering the forty-three (43) week calendar the teachers overwhelmingly support!?

Our forty-three week calendar provides what was supposedly so important – two consecutive days of Professional Development before school starts (without starting the last week of August); whereas, your forty-four (44) week calendar prevents teachers from working thereby losing a week’s salary depriving many teachers’ income and little time for summer school teachers before the start of school. Teachers, unlike some administrators, care about those who will lose wages if forced to report during the last week of August.

If you reject the forty-three (43) week proposal/MOU that mirrors the forty-three (43) week proposal we will agree to for this year as we have with previous forty-three (43) week agreements, it will be you who have made the decision to eliminate the mid-winter break not Buffalo teachers.

PR:su