

WHEREAS, Buffalo teachers are seeing a significant increase in student behaviors that are detrimental to student learning and school safety; and

WHEREAS, Suspension alone, in most cases, does not address the underlying cause of the detrimental student behavior; and

WHEREAS, The District, in order to reduce suspensions, must not focus on the number of suspensions, it must focus on the behavior(s) that resulted in each suspension; and,

WHEREAS, Buffalo teachers, while being very concerned about the student behavior that is detrimental to student learning and school safety, also believe that to end said student behavior, suspensions must require District-provided intervention(s); and

WHEREAS, Said intervention(s) involves the resources of trained pupil personnel, e.g. school counselors, school social workers, school psychologists, school attendance teachers, etc. and community/government partners; and

WHEREAS, The caseload of trained pupil personnel employees is, instead of 100/1, often 800/1 or more; and

WHEREAS, It is the District's responsibility to ensure that suspension necessarily entails intervention(s).

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Buffalo School Board/District will ensure that every student suspension requires the student to receive the intervention services of school counselors, school social workers, school attendance teachers, school psychologists and/or other trained providers to work with that student, and if necessary, his/her family, so that the behavior that led to the suspension ends, and the student and other students can succeed; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Education, to ensure that the required intervention services are provided to suspended students, establish caseloads for the above named District providers of no more than 100/1; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board/School District will continue and expand its outreach to city, state and local agencies that can provide said intervention services; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That henceforth the designation "Suspension/District intervention(s)" will be used and implemented.

Recommended:	Philip Rumore
Moved:	Rebecca Pordum
Seconded:	Joseph Montante