



Buffalo Teachers Federation, Inc.
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President, PHILIP RUMORE

February 27, 2019

MEMO TO: All Buffalo Teachers
FROM: Philip Rumore, President, BTF
RE: 2019-2020 School Calendar

Attached below, please find two (2) proposed school calendars for the 2019-2020 school year.

Option "A" is an alternative calendar requiring our approval, as did previous calendars submitted for your approval, as it includes forty-four (44) consecutive weeks from the start to the end of the school year instead of forty-two (42) weeks. It, however, includes the mid-winter, February break as does the BOCES calendar. It also includes the Wednesday before Thanksgiving and the Friday before Memorial Day as holidays.

Option "B" is the calendar that does not require our approval as it conforms to our contract. It does not include the mid-winter, February break or the extended breaks at Thanksgiving and Memorial Day.

The decision as to whether the BTF enters into an MOU allowing Option "A" will be made by the Council of Delegates at its March 14, 2019 meeting.

Please review the calendars and advise your Delegates of your position on the calendars. This can be done at a meeting, via correspondence with them in writing or verbally.

The reason that the starting and ending dates change involves the scheduling of the June Regents Examinations. If they are scheduled later, the school year ends later and vice versa.

Below is an overview of each calendar.

Option A – Requires BTF Approval

- Teachers begin on Wednesday, August 28, 2019 and will also work August 29, 2019. These are Professional Development days. September 3, 2019 is the day ("duty free") to set up classrooms. Students begin on September 4, 2019.
- Teachers work until June 26, 2020 due to the late administration of Regents exams. Last day of classes for elementary students is June 26, 2020. Last day of classes for high school students is after Regents exams are completed.
- Provides the February break that most suburban schools/BOCES will have.
- This option provides a 5-day Thanksgiving break and a 4-day Memorial Day weekend
- Total of 188 teacher days, as per contract.
- Teachers would get their first check (half check) on September 6, 2019.

- Last check (full) would be on June 26, 2020.
- This option would need a variance from the BTF because it violates the forty-two (42) consecutive weeks provision of our CBA. It has forty-four (44) weeks.
- Incorporates four (4) snow days.

Option B – Does Not Require BTF Approval

- Teachers begin on Monday, September 9, 2019 for Professional Development and have September 10, 2019 as the day (“duty free”) to set up classrooms. Students begin on September 11, 2019.
- Teachers work until June 26, 2020 due to the late administration of Regents exams. Last day of classes for elementary students is June 25, 2020. Last day of classes for high school students is after Regents exams are completed.
- Does NOT provide the February break that most suburban schools/BOCES will have.
- Does NOT provide the Wednesday off before Thanksgiving or the Friday before Memorial Day.
- Total of 188 teacher days, as per contract.
- Teachers would get their first check (half check) on September 20, 2019.
- Last check (full) would be on July 3, 2020.
- This option complies with our contract and has forty-two (42) consecutive weeks.
- Incorporates four (4) snow days.

The only one that needs our approval is option “A”. As with our previous MOU’s, this will not set a precedent but will only be for the 2019-2020 school year.

PR:su