



Buffalo Teachers Federation, Inc.  
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President, PHILIP RUMORE

June 14, 2019

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

Yesterday, June 13, 2019, the District sent us a proposed forty-three (43) week calendar to replace their proposed forty-four (44) week calendar.

Attached is a copy of our forty-three (43) week calendar ([BTF Document I](#)), and a copy of the District's proposed forty-three (43) week calendar ([BTF Document II](#)). Note: The "C" on the District's proposal is their identification notation.

As you can see, the difference between the District's calendar ([BTF Document II](#)) and our calendar ([BTF Document I](#)) is:

- The District's calendar (Document II) changes the contractual one full duty-free day prior to the opening of school on September 5, to a half (1/2) day. The other half (1/2) day would be for professional development in the school.
- Students would begin school on September 5, 2019 instead of September 6, 2019.
- October 2, 2019 would be a Professional Development/BEDS Day without students.

As I stated in the last email, the decision must be made by you.

Teachers have already voted to support our forty-three (43) week 2019-2020 compromise calendar that would permit a forty-three (43) week school year ([BTF Document I](#)).

The District initially proposed a forty-four (44) week calendar. It is now proposing a forty-three (43) week calendar that is, as noted above, different from our forty-three (43) week calendar.

The Board of Education is scheduled to vote on Wednesday, June 19, 2019.

As stated at our Council of Delegates meeting last evening, each school should take a vote on whether the BTF should agree to the District's proposed forty-three (43) week calendar (BTF Document II) or not agree to it.

We ask that:

- The number of votes to support the District's proposed calendar ([BTF Document II](#)), the number of votes to not support the Board's proposed calendar and the number of abstentions, be reported to the BTF as soon as possible, but no later the 5 p.m. on Tuesday, June 18, 2019.
- If possible, a faculty meeting be held to discuss the issue. This is not necessary.
- How the vote is taken should be determined by each building.
- The faculty should decide if there should be a secret ballot vote.
- There be a method for teachers to vote, who are out ill, taking personal days, etc.

Note: Any agreement is for the 2019-2020 school year only.

The reason for reporting the number of votes in each school/site is that there are some schools/sites that have larger number of teachers than others. It would be unfair to just use the number of schools/sites.

I know this is very short notice; however, as stated, we just received the District's proposal and believe that you should make this decision.

Although, as was stated, you should make the decision, the Council of Delegates passed the following motion:

*The Council of Delegates recommends that the membership reject the District's forty-three (43) week calendar proposal because we believe that the BTF's forty-three (43) week calendar proposal should be approved by the Board of Education.*

We ask that the vote be as follows:

- [ ] I **support** the District's forty-three (43) week calendar, ([BTF Document II](#)).
- [ ] I **do not support** the District's forty-three (43) week calendar, ([BTF Document II](#)).
- [ ] I **abstain** from voting on the District's forty-three (43) week calendar, ([BTF Document II](#)).

Please advise us of your schools voting results by emailing them to [sumhauer@btfny.org](mailto:sumhauer@btfny.org). Include the school/site and person reporting the results.

I know this is short notice. Remember it was not the BTF that has dragged this out. It was the District.

It is now for the Board of Education to vote. The only BTF proposal currently before it is BTF Document I.

Thank you in advance for you continued cooperation and support.

PR:su