



BMORE Constitutional Amendment Call Script

Check in like any normal conversation you'd have with a friend/acquaintance. When you feel ready...

- *Have you heard of the BTU general membership meeting on October 30th where educators can vote on the constitutional amendment to make voting more accessible?*
- *So, did you get the BTU email about the membership vote at the end of the month?*
- *I had a union question for you; did you vote in the last BTU election?*
- *Have you heard about the petition that BMORE circulated to make voting easier?*

[If yes...] Great! Are you planning on attending the general membership meeting at Frederick Douglass on October 30th?

[If yes...] Fantastic. The only way we win this vote is for people to show up. Do you need any help with transportation?

Are there any other folks at your school or beyond who also care about making union leadership elections and contract votes more accessible? Its really important that we turn people out, are you willing to ask those people to come to the general membership meeting?

[Either way...] Great! We really appreciate your support and look forward to seeing you on October 30th. Do you have any other questions or concerns?

[If no...] No problem. We believe that one way our union can be stronger is if it was easier for teachers to vote. Currently, voting is held on a school day at five locations across the city between 7:30am and 5:30pm. Limited hours and locations make it tough for members to get out and vote. Voting for our contract and for union leadership is one of the most fundamental ways that union members can make their voices heard and we want to make that easier.

*We gathered over 800 signatures last year of union members to allow for a system of mail-in and online ballots, so that educators can choose the method of voting that fits their schedule. *

In order to make mail in and online voting an option, we need to amend our union's constitution. We have to show up and vote at the BTU general membership meeting on October 30th, at 5pm, at Frederick Douglass High School. The amendment only passes if we get 2/3 of the vote at the general membership meeting. Can you make it? [If yes, move to indented script above]

[If no...] No problem. [move to "Are there any other folks" above]



Potential questions:

If we offer two voting methods, how can we be sure that people don't vote twice?

- That's definitely a question we get a lot. Union elections are run by outside vendors that are certified by the National Labor Relations Board to be impartial and reputable. The outside vendors would mail each union member a ballot with a pin number that can't be traced back to their identity. The pin number ensures that a person's vote is only tallied once. ElectionsUSA is the name of the company that currently runs our election and they offer this method of voting, which is called hybrid voting, and is used by unions and other organizations across the country.

Is online voting secure?

- Online voting would be run and verified by an outside vendor that the BTU would contract with. These vendors are approved by the National Labor Relations Board and they are required to be impartial and secure.

Will voting this way cost the union more money?

- Not significantly. Currently, we pay for dozens of people to drive down from PA, and spend the day manning voting machines. Instead of paying for people's salaries and their travel as well as for the use of the machines, we'd be paying for the postage and online portal maintenance of a hybrid election. We're already paying a significant amount of money for a voting method that doesn't work for many people. This petition gives you as a member the right to demand that your union dues be spent in a way that allows you to vote more conveniently.

What is this group? Is it connected to the Baltimore CEDE facebook group?

- No, Baltimore CEDE and BMORE are both union caucuses. BMORE is running this issue campaign and began as a group of Building Reps who started meeting in 2015. Here's a flyer that explains what we're about and what we believe. CEDE also supports the constitutional amendment