



A Union of Education, Technical Support, Charter School and Education Support Professionals

## **PRESS STATEMENT**

### ***Regarding Florida Education Association Merit Pay Lawsuit by BTU President Pat Santeramo***

“Florida’s unfunded merit pay plan is based on the false notion that teachers are not already doing everything they can to increase student achievement.

Broward teachers remain committed to making sure their contractual rights are protected in regard to merit pay because doing so assures their students will receive a quality education and achievement will increase.

Teachers know from research that merit pay does not result in increased student test scores.

Education leaders have repeatedly told the governor and legislators that research demonstrates merit pay will not produce the results they are seeking. We know adequately funding public schools and reducing class sizes increases student learning outcomes.

Florida remains at the bottom of all states for public school funding. State lawmakers continue to attack the will of the electorate by finding ways to reduce the positive impact of the Class Size Reduction Amendment.”

**~ BTU President Pat Santeramo**

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Founded in 1969, the Broward Teachers Union organizes and represents about 12,000 members who work for the School Board of Broward County and City of Pembroke Pines as education, technical support, charter school, and education support professionals. It is the second largest local teachers union in Florida and the sixth largest in the nation. The union’s affiliates include the Florida Education Association, the American Federation of Teachers, the National Education Association and the AFL-CIO.