

# Association of Texas Professional Educators

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**Supporting Your Freedom to Teach<sup>SM</sup>**

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## **ATPE honored for supporting public schools**

The 113,000-member Association of Texas Professional Educators was among 11 Texas employers honored at a recent meeting of the State Board of Education for their part in promoting employee volunteerism in neighborhood public schools.

The annual Employers for Education Excellence (EEE) Award was bestowed upon ATPE for its partnership at Harris Elementary School in the Austin school district. This partnership allows ATPE staff members to act as mentors and tutors to students at Harris Elementary, as well as offer financial support for various student activities.

“One of ATPE’s founding ideas is that public education must be focused on the students, and having our staff working with schools in our area truly reinforces our commitment to this precept,” said Doug Rogers, ATPE executive director. “ATPE is a leading group in the public education community, so it’s important for our staff members to strive not only to improve the field of public education, but also to serve the students themselves.”

The five-year-old partnership with Harris Elementary allowed ATPE to qualify for the highest category of the EEE program, the Gold Award, which is given specifically to employers that implement policies encouraging employees to participate in school programs and attend parent-teacher conferences. Each year, ATPE supplies employees with eight paid hours to meet those goals.

“We’re proud to have such a dedicated team, and we want our staff members to have every resource available to help Texas students achieve their very best,” said Rogers.

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*The 113,000-member Association of Texas Professional Educators is the largest educators’ group in Texas and the largest nonunion educators’ group nationwide. Its membership consists of classroom teachers, para-educators, administrators, college students and retired educators. ATPE is committed to advocating for better benefits for all educators, promoting a collaborative work environment and the right of educators to choose the association they feel represents their interests, and providing the best education possible for all Texas school children.*