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## **Association of Texas Professional Educators**

305 E. Huntland Dr., Suite 300, Austin, TX 78752

(800) 777-ATPE • (512) 467-0071 • [atpe.org](http://atpe.org)

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**Media contact: Ashley Anthony**  
**Office: (512) 467-0071**  
**Cell: (281) 217-2347**  
**Email: [aanthony@atpe.org](mailto:aanthony@atpe.org)**

### **ATPE President: Court order might help fix school finance system**

AUSTIN – The following is a statement by Cheryl Buchanan, president of the 116,000-plus member Association of Texas Professional Educators (ATPE), regarding the school funding lawsuit filed against the state Monday. Buchanan, a 24-year education veteran, teaches sixth grade English and ESL.

“The state’s school finance system has been broken for many years, but our legislators have been unwilling to tackle the problem unless ordered to do so by the courts. At some point, elected officials will have the political will to implement a long-term overhaul of the school finance system that is truly equitable and provides adequate funding for public schools to be successful. Unfortunately for 5 million schoolchildren, that time has not come yet. Perhaps another court order is what it will take to expedite real reform.”

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*The 116,000-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.*