



Association of Texas Professional Educators
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Education quality to suffer in BISD as district announces more than 200 layoffs
ATPE warns students will pay the price for district's financial mismanagement

BEAUMONT, Texas — Although disappointment regarding the mismanagement and criminal activity that led to the current Beaumont ISD crisis should certainly be expressed, the Association of Texas Professional Educators (ATPE) is first and foremost concerned for the students who will end up paying the ultimate price thanks to the district's recent decision to cut more than 200 positions.

A list posted on BISD's website shows no area is unaffected, including many core subject areas and an alarming number of elective classes.

"The potential harm of cutting dozens of math, English and elementary level positions cannot be overstated, not to mention the numerous cuts to fine arts programs," Beaumont ATPE President Suellen Ener said. "Students thrive as a result of theatre arts, band, choir and language courses. Eliminating such a large number of teachers will certainly have a negative impact on the quality of education Beaumont schoolchildren receive. It is unfortunate that students will pay the heaviest price for the misdeeds of this administration."

BISD will hold a board meeting at 6 p.m. this evening. ATPE representatives will attend the meeting and recommend that any members affected by the reduction in force contact the ATPE state office.

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The Association of Texas Professional Educators (ATPE) has been a strong voice for Texas educators since 1980. It is the leading educators' association in Texas with more than 100,000 members statewide. With its strong collaborative philosophy, ATPE speaks for classroom teachers, administrators, future, retired and para-educators and works to create better opportunities for 5 million public schoolchildren. ATPE is the ally and the voice of Texas public school educators.