



PINELLAS CLASSROOM TEACHERS ASSOCIATION • 650 Seminole Boulevard, Largo, Florida 33770-3625 • (727) 585-6518

July 16, 2009

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MEDIA RELEASE

PCTA Grieves Teacher Pay Cut/Unfair Labor Practice to Follow

Today, the Pinellas Classroom Teachers Association (PCTA) has filed a grievance with the Pinellas County School Board (PCSB) for unilaterally reducing teacher pay by an amount of \$290 annually. PCTA will follow this grievance by filing an unfair labor practice charge against the PCSB in the coming week. The immediate impact of the PCSB decision was felt by 11.5 and 12 month contract instructional personnel. The action, however, will impact all 8,400 Pinellas County School Board instructional personnel when school opens in August.

"This issue has simmered since mid-June when the district announced during a bargaining session that they were planning to reduce teacher pay in 2009-10 due to a shortfall in property tax collections related to the local tax referendum", said PCTA President Kim Black. "I sent two letters to Dr. Ron Stone explaining the contract violation and PCTA's intent to take corrective action if the district followed through with the pay cut." Ron Stone, Associate Superintendent for Human Resources, has yet to respond.

"We are outraged that the district would adjust the salary schedule for members of the PCTA bargaining unit while we are in the midst of negotiations," stated PCTA Executive Director Marshall Ogletree. "The action shows insensitivity towards our dedicated professional instructional personnel and is a unilateral decision that both violates our collective bargaining agreement and constitutes an unfair labor practice in violation of Chapter 447, Florida Statutes."

We have asked that "PCSB cease and desist from reducing instructional personnel salaries immediately. The district shall repay all personnel the amount that was reduced in their next paycheck and thereafter reinstate the full payment of salary listed in Appendix A of the agreement to all instructional personnel impacted by the pay reduction."

We hope the members of the School Board will see the value in rescinding this breach in good faith bargaining with PCTA.

The Pinellas Classroom Teachers Association is the exclusive bargaining unit for the 8400 instructional personnel employed by the Pinellas County School Board.