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Brevard Public Schools takes lead by agreeing to offer parental leave for teachers.

VIERA, Florida – Brevard Public Schools is committed to supporting and encouraging its teachers. Yesterday, the school district agreed to a plan that will give teachers paid parental leave. The plan will be a trendsetter for teacher benefits in Florida.

Yesterday's agreement was made during a contract negotiation session with the Brevard Federation of Teachers (BFT). The plan will allow a teacher to take five days paid parental leave after the delivery or adoption of a child.

During a time where every industry faces financial challenges, education is no different. Still, the district was able to propose a pay raise using the full \$11.3m allocated for teacher raises by the state legislature. Classroom teachers would see a salary of no less than \$46,650. All other teachers would receive raises equaling \$709. The district is ready to get this money into the bank accounts of teachers as soon as possible. This proposal meets the Florida statute's intent while using the full \$11.3m for teacher compensation.

The district and the union agreed on changes to insurance premium costs that ensures the stability of healthcare coverage for BPS teachers. The district and the union were able to work together and meet in the middle when it comes to the monthly premium costs.

While no contract agreement was reached, BPS will continue to negotiate in good faith with BFT. The next bargaining session is scheduled for Monday September 21st.



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