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News. . .

DSEA to Governor: NO to salary reductions

“We cannot have world class schools with third world pay.”

DOVER, DE, March 19, 2009... “Every education reform initiative that we are undertaking involves teachers and other school employees doing more, with more justification, accountability, and second guessing,” said Diane Donohue, president of the 11,700-member Delaware State Education Association following the release of his proposed budget-reducing budget. “And now the Governor wants us to do more for less pay and benefits,” she emphasized. “We are saying, No, not only is it disappointing and troubling, it is totally unacceptable.” She said it will affect the future of the education profession and could even be a “short-term savings that risks our long-term prosperity,” something the Governor said today that he did not want to do.

Noting that DSEA has an excellent relationship with the new Governor, she said, “We will not hesitate to express our displeasure with his proposal,” she continued. “We have to grow our way out of this mess, and that means bold investments in education, health care and educators.” She will remind the Governor that he also believes that the most sustainable way to grow our economy is through investments in education and families, i.e. health care.

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DSEA says NO, cont.

Donohue added, "You don't overcome an economic disaster by creating more economic devastation for the people delivering your core services."

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With 11,500 members, DSEA is a public employee union representing the public school teachers in all 19 school districts, as well as many support employee groups in 18 school districts. DSEA also represents the teachers employed by the Division of Children, Youth and their Families as well as the state's public health nurses.

DSEA is a private, non-profit membership organization dedicated to promoting and defending outstanding public education for all students; and advancing and protecting the interests of its members.

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Moving education forward