
DELAWARE STATE EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

Affiliated with the National Education Association

DIRECTOR OF LEGISLATIVE AND POLITICAL STRATEGY VACANCY NOTICE

The Delaware State Education Association is seeking applicants for a full-time Director of Legislative and Political Strategy position. The position is located in the Dover Office. The position leads the development and implementation of DSEA's legislative and political strategy at the state level. It provides guidance and support to local associations actively participating in school board elections and local referendums.

The successful candidate will display an understanding and enthusiasm for the legislative and political process and a passion for public education. Sound judgment, good instincts, a strong work ethic, and values consistent with the DSEA culture must also be evident. In addition, the individual must be able to work effectively with both sides of the legislative aisle, colleagues, work teams, and state and local leaders.

Responsibilities:

This Director of Legislative and Political Strategy position will:

- Establish and implement a process for the development of DSEA's Legislative Program.
 - Provide opportunity for member engagement and input into the Legislative Program.
 - Prepare and present DSEA's Legislative Program to the DSEA Executive Board and Representative Assembly.
- Lead the development and implementation of strategy to ensure legislation, budget, and programs consistent with DSEA's Legislative Program.
 - Identify and support opportunities for member engagement and activism.
 - Lead and direct research needed to support DSEA's Legislative Program.
 - Develop ongoing communications to DSEA leaders, members and staff updating them on DSEA's legislative efforts.
- Works with the Director of Education Policy to support the development and implementation of the DSEA Legislative Program specifically where it intersects with DSEA's positions on education policy.
- Works with the Director of Education Policy to identify and develop strategic

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partnerships with educator groups to support and advance DSEA's education policy efforts specifically where such efforts intersect with DSEA's Legislative Program.

- Works with the Director of Education Policy to Identify and develop strategic partnerships with outside groups to support and advance Legislative Program and education policy positions Such groups include but are not limited to Delaware School Boards Association, Delaware Association of School Administrators, Delaware PTA, Redding Consortium, Rodel and Business Roundtable.
- Lead and implement DSEA's process for candidate recommendations at the national and state level.
- Develop and implement strategies and tactics to support the election of NEA/DSEA recommended candidates.
 - Identify and support opportunities for member engagement and activism.
 - Lead and direct research needed to support NEA/DSEA's recommended candidates.
 - Develop communications to DSEA leaders, members and staff related to NEA/DSEA'S recommended candidates.
- Provide support and guidance to local association efforts to identify, endorse and actively support candidates for school board.
- Provide support and guidance to local association efforts to actively participate in local referendum elections.
- Develop and lead DSEA's strategy and efforts to raise NEA and DSEA political action funds.
- Responsible for the development and management of budgets for the DSEA legislative and political programs.
- Oversee and manage DSEA's use of technology and information platforms related to its legislative and political programs
- Works in a cooperative manner with other members of the DSEA staff, DSEA management, DSEA Board of Directors and elected local leadership.
- The workweek regularly exceeds the traditional 40-hour week including some weekends
- Other duties as assigned by the Executive Director or designee.

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Essential Knowledge, Skills, and Successful Experiences:

- 1) Ability to Adjust to Diverse Situations
- 2) Advocacy and Labor Relations
- 3) Lobbying and Legislative Process
- 4) Political Campaign Strategy and Tactics
- 5) Communications Skills
- 6) Computer Literacy
- 7) Designing and Implementing Training Programs
- 8) Excellent Speaking and Writing Skills
- 9) Facilitation and Conflict Resolution
- 10) Interpersonal/Human Relation Skills
- 11) Issue, Campaign, and Grassroots Organizing
- 12) Knowledge of Educational Issues
- 13) Organizational & Leadership Development
- 14) Problem Solving

Current Situation: DSEA represents over 13,000 members including teachers, educational support professionals, students, retired school employees, and state public health nurses.

Salary & Benefits: The successful applicant will be hired pursuant to the Delaware Staff Organization Collective Bargaining Agreement.

Application Deadline: Open Until Filled

Please submit a letter of application, resume, and three references to:

Jeff Taschner, Executive Director
Delaware State Education Association
136 East Water Street
Dover, DE 19901

You may also fax this information to Jeff Taschner at (302) 674-8499 or email him at Jeff.Taschner@dsea.org.

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