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Empowering Student Superheroes to Defeat COVID-19

Delaware Associations Team Up to Encourage Kids Stay Safe this School Year

(DOVER, DE – November 9, 2020) The Delaware Healthcare Association, Delaware State Education Association and Delaware School Boards Association today released a poster [*attached below*] reminding students that just like superheroes, they have the power to defend against COVID-19 in their schools and communities. The posters are being distributed to elementary and middle schools throughout Delaware to help encourage students to be a hero for their classmates, teachers, staff and communities by taking simple steps that help protect against the spread of coronavirus.

“Delaware’s health care providers have done heroic work battling COVID-19 this year,” **said Wayne Smith, President & CEO of the Delaware Healthcare Association.** “Students can also be health care Superheroes by doing their part to defeat the nasty COVID-19 bug.”

“Our educators are ready to join forces with their super students to mask up and fight against the spread of COVID-19” **said Delaware State Education Association President Stephanie Ingram.** “We know that together, our students and staff can help keep their communities safe by masking up, frequently washing our hands, and keeping a safe distance from others.”

“As many students return to school this month, we want to make sure they come back eager to learn, but also eager to stay COVID-free,” **said John W. Marinucci, Ed.D, Executive Director of the Delaware School Boards Association.** “Providing posters to our schools that list the important steps to take to fend off COVID-19 is one step in the comprehensive planning that has gone into returning safely to school this year.

The poster, a comic book-style illustration, encourages students to “be a hero and mask up.” The poster also depicts superheroes who “EVADE” the virus by keeping 6 ft. distance away from each other, “DESTROY” the virus by washing their hands; and “DEFEND” against the virus by wearing a mask.

The poster design was created by the Missouri State Hospital Association, who gave the Delaware Healthcare Association permission to use the image to help keep kids, teachers and their communities stay safe during COVID-19.

About the Delaware Healthcare Association

The Delaware Healthcare Association (DHA) was formed in 1967 to assist Delaware hospitals in working on issues concerning health care and the hospital industry. DHA is a statewide trade and membership services organization that serves as a leader in the promotion of effective change in health services through collaboration and consensus building on health care issues at the State and Federal levels. DHA's vision is to be the leading and respected voice for hospitals and health care delivery systems in Delaware working together to deliver compassionate, accessible, high quality, financially sustainable health care to the patients and communities they serve. DHA's mission is to provide policy and advocacy leadership in creating an excellent environment for enabling every Delawarean to be as healthy as they can be.

About DSEA

DSEA is an educator's union that represents the over 12,000 classroom teachers, specialists, and education support professionals working in Delaware public schools. Our members are dedicated to providing the best educational opportunities for Delaware's public school students and stand strong for student success.

About the Delaware School Boards Association

The Delaware School Boards Association is a voluntary, non-profit organization of school boards which seeks to further public education and assist board members in carrying out their responsibilities. Founded in 1946, current membership consists of 15 local school boards of education and the State Board of Education, which, together, represent 96 school board members throughout Delaware. Among its basic goals, DSBA is dedicated to advancing the quality of Delaware's public schools, promoting efficient and effective administration of those schools and strengthening the tradition of local citizen control through the establishment of education policy by elected and appointed school board members directly accountable to the communities they serve.

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