# Top 10 Reasons to Join Your Union



### **Together, A Stronger Voice**

#### **SALARY & BENEFITS**

Your union fights for salary increases, health care protections, and retirement security that make your career in public education viable. Being a member adds to the collective strength of the union and, together, we can ensure public school educators are fairly compensated and supported.

#### COLLECTIVE VOICE

Joining your union, over 13,000 of your public school colleagues across Delaware and over 3 Million nationally, means you collectively have a more powerful voice. Together, we can ensure that educators like you have a strong voice so that educators live better lives and our students get the best education possible.



#### **COLLECTIVE BARGAINING RIGHTS**

A collective bargaining agreement (CBA) is a legal document that protects your rights. It contains agreements between your employer and your union related to your pay, benefits, and working conditions. As a union member, you have the right to give input on and vote to approve future CBA's.

#### IMPROVED WORKING & STUDENT LEARNING CONDITIONS

Better working conditions for educators means better learning conditions for students. DSEA and your local association empower members to be strong advocates for public education. From increased funding for our schools to safer buildings and classrooms, your union can provide the tools you need to become a public school champion.

#### **POWERFUL PARTNERSHIPS**

As a member, you are part of a network that advocates for positive change. In your district, your local association can collaborate with administration, families, and the community to resolve issues your school is facing. At the state and national level, your unions meet with elected officials to ensure the voices of working families and public school educators are heard.

#### LIABILITY AND LEGAL PROTECTION

Because the liability potential can be so serious for school employees, members have access to professional liability insurance through the NEA Educators Employment Liability (EEL) Program. Members also have access to legal consultation and representation when dealing with disciplinary and employment matters.

## PROFESSIONAL LEARNING & GROWTH

DSEA provides high-quality professional and leadership development training to members. As a member, you not only have access to research based in-person and online offerings, but you also have opportunities to develop and facilitate professional learning for your colleagues.

#### COMMITTMENT TO SOCIAL JUSTICE

As a member, you join forces with fellow educators to make a difference regarding the social justice issues that matter most to you. Members have access to resources and training to help foster and strengthen equity in their schools.

#### NATIONWIDE COMMUNITY OF EDUCATORS

When you are a member of your local association you are also a member of DSEA and the National Education Association. Your association is your way to connect with likeminded colleagues across the district, state, and country, all of whom are working to better the lives of their students.

#### MEMBER BENEFITS

Stretch your income and save money with NEA's and DSEA's Member Benefit programs which offer extensive member-only discounts.

