



## **Delaware House of Representatives House Majority Caucus**

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**Contact: Drew Volturo  
Work: (302) 744-4001  
Cell: (302) 593-5969**

### **REP. KOWALKO HONORED WITH DSEA FRIEND OF EDUCATION AWARD**

*Newark legislator wins teacher association award for dedication to teachers and students*

NEWARK – The Delaware State Education Association bestowed its Legislative Friend of Education Award on Newark Rep. John A. Kowalko Jr. for his work on public school issues on Friday evening.

DSEA presented Rep. Kowalko with the award for his dedication to educators throughout the state during the state’s budget crisis last year. Rep. Kowalko met with education officials to explore methods to close the budget gap without impacting state workers. Ultimately, compromises were worked out to reduce the impact to state workers and maintain essential state services.

As a member of the House Education Committee, Rep. Kowalko has championed legislation to improve education and provide teachers with the tools they need to educate and prepare students for the real world. He said he was humbled by the recognition and will work hard to continue to help everyone involved in education – teachers, parents and students.

“Our educators are on the front line of growing this state’s future, they have the knowledge, ability and willingness to give every one of our children the opportunity to grow and achieve their fullest potential,” Rep. Kowalko said. “I hope I have earned this award and can continue to earn the respect and goodwill of such wonderful civil servants as our teachers. I am humbled and privileged to have been given this acknowledgement and for the opportunity to contribute to our children’s future.”

DSEA president Diane Donohue, a reading/writing teacher in the Indian River School District, praised Rep. Kowalko for his diligence, noting that the Newark legislator comes to DSEA with information, ideas, and for advice when unsure of the organization’s position.

“As a member of the House Education Committee, John is a quick-study on education issues, and he comes to us well-informed, yet ready to understand the perspective of the people who work in our schools before formulating his opinions,” Ms. Donohue said.

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