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## **WI School Counselor Association Honors Workforce Secretary Newson**

*Jerome Henning Legislator Award recognizes Secretary for 'significant contributions' to counseling*

MADISON – The Wisconsin School Counselor Association (WSCA) has named Department of Workforce Development (DWD) Secretary Reggie Newson as the recipient of the association's 2013-14 Jerome Henning Legislator Award. The award is presented annually to those who have made significant legislative-related contributions to the school counseling profession.

WSCA Past President Lori Peacock of the Green Bay Area Public School District and WSCA Government Relations Chair Gary Campbell of the River Falls School District both nominated Secretary Newson for this year's honor.

"[Secretary Newson] has helped to build a collaborative relationship between our state's school counselors and his department's goal of building a strong workforce in Wisconsin," Mr. Campbell wrote in his nomination letter to WSCA.

Ms. Peacock stated that Secretary Newson "encourages partnerships between educators and business and industry so all key stakeholders are working together to create a positive future for our children, thereby sustaining a strong economy...he is often seen in our schools or work-based learning programs talking with students, educators, and parents about the future or discussing important issues about education with key stakeholders in business and industry."

The award will be presented to Secretary Newson during WSCA's annual conference February 18-20, 2014 at the Monona Terrace Community and Convention Center in Madison. The Jerome Henning Legislator Award is one of numerous awards that WSCA bestows annually for professional recognition.

DWD, under Governor Walker's leadership, has made workforce development linkages with K – 12 education a top priority, ensuring that students can access the resources they need to train for in-demand careers around Wisconsin. Governor Walker's has signed into law a number of measures designed to increase resources available to students and educators, including:

- \$1 million in additional funding for Wisconsin's youth apprenticeship program;
- Incentive grants for school districts that train students for in-demand occupations that result in an industry-recognized credential; and
- Establishing a technical excellence scholarship program to enable students in CTE programs to receive scholarships to state technical colleges.