**VP Biden**

**Biden School Script**

**FINAL**

**VP:**

I am humbled and honored that the University of Delaware has re-named its public policy school the Joseph R. Biden Jr. School of Public Policy and Administration.

UD holds a special place in my heart.

It was here that I was inspired to commit to a life of public service.

And it was here that I had great professors who made me believe I could make a difference.

Now I hope the Biden School will inspire this and future generations of young leaders – just as I was inspired on this campus.

I believe we can make the Biden School one of the best – if not the very best – public policy schools in the nation.

I know we will meet high standards of academic excellence.

But I hope we do something else.

I want the Biden School to be a leader in returning honesty and decency and civility to our public debate.

I have long said – to paraphrase James Joyce – that when I die Delaware will be written on my heart. Now I can say my name will be forever etched into the brick and mortar of this University.

I’ll never be able to tell you how much it means to me that my children and grandchildren and their children will see that.

So let me just say -- “Thank You” -- from the bottom of my heart.

I hope you’ll consider joining and supporting the Biden School.