



Invest in the future of the PDK poll

PDK International is launching the American Voice Campaign as a new initiative to honor the history of the PDK Poll of the Public's Attitudes Toward the Public Schools and ensure its continued independence.

2018 will mark the 50th anniversary of the PDK poll. The poll began when two Denver-based foundation executives, Charles F. Kettering II and Edward A. Brainard, enlisted George Gallup Sr. to conduct the first poll, which he did in April 1969. The findings of the first poll were published in *Phi Delta Kappan* magazine in November of that year, and since 1970, the poll has been published each year in *Kappan's* September issue.

Throughout its 50 years, the national PDK poll has been funded exclusively by the PDK Foundation, which has enabled it to preserve its independence and integrity. "Rather than offering a partial or restricted view of the data, we are committed to allowing the public to speak for itself," said PDK International CEO Joshua P. Starr.

"The PDK poll has established itself as the most trusted source of public opinion on education precisely because it has been able to remain independent," Starr added. "We do not use the poll to advocate for any agenda but let the chips fall where they may. In these uncertain times, we believe there is more value than ever in supporting efforts that ensure that the voices of all Americans are presented to policy makers and the general public."

The American Voice Campaign is available to receive donations from PDK members and others to ensure a secure future for the poll. You can make a donation online here: www.pdkintl.org/donate or contact Katrina Breese, senior director of development and engagement, kbreese@pdkintl.org or 571-335-0682 for more information on additional giving options including making a planned gift.

PDK plans new focus on membership

Kate Stephens has joined the PDK International staff as director of relationships and outreach.

In this position, Stephens will focus on growing and maintaining the organization's membership, while deepening member engagement for both PDK and Pi Lambda Theta. She will be developing a strategy to support educators from their high school years (when they are members of Educators Rising) into their college years (when they are recognized by Pi Lambda Theta for their academic achievements) and throughout their professional careers.

Stephens previously worked as senior manager of operations for the Board of Pharmacy Specialties, as a staffing specialist for the D.C. Public Schools, and as a program manager for the American Board for Certification of Teacher Excellence. She has a bachelor's degree in English from George Washington University.

Stephens will work in the Arlington, Va., office and report to Chief Operating Officer Albert Chen. Her email is kstephens@pdkintl.org.



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Complete contact information for the board and staff is available at www.pdkintl.org/about/governance/ and www.pdkintl.org/about/staff.



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